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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
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English - Or. English

**DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DIRECTORATE**

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Draft Summary Record of the Joint Meeting of the Development Assistance Committee and the Working Party of the Trade Committee on Aid for Trade

17 June 2011, OECD Conference Centre, Paris

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Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda [COM/DCD/TAD/A(2011)1/PROV]

1. The agenda was adopted.

Item 2 Summary Record of the Joint DAC –WP/TC 7 June 2010 meeting [COM/DCD/TAD/M(2010)4/PROV]

2. The summary record of the 7 June 2010 joint meeting of the DAC – WP/TC was approved.

Item 3 Aid for Trade at a Glance: Showing Results [COM/DCD/TAD(2011)3/CHAP1-8]

3. The secretariat introduced the chapters of the third aid-for-trade monitoring report *Aid for Trade at a Glance 2011: Showing Results* which is built on a vast amount of information from a wide range of sources about what works in aid for trade, what does not work and where improvements are needed. The secretariat highlighted that the bulk of this information has been provided through 269 case stories and 140 self-assessments submitted by partner countries, bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, providers of South-South co-operation and regional economic communities. Together with the aid-for-trade data extracted from the OECD/CRS database and findings from evaluations and empirical studies, these assessments provide a mostly positive picture about the results of the Aid-for-Trade Initiative and aid for trade programmes.

4. Members welcomed the draft chapters. They suggested combining the chapter concerning results (*i.e.* Chapter 5) with the chapter concerning complementary policies (Chapter 7). In addition, Members asked for further information about certain aid-for-trade trends in relation to overall aid trends.

5. The Chairman of the WTO Committee on Trade and Development (CTD) Ambassador Mothae Marupin of Lesotho who attended the meeting expressed his appreciation for OECD aid-for-trade work and highlighted the links between Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework for the Least Developed Countries. The WTO Aid for Trade co-ordinator Michael Roberts provided an update of the preparation of the 3rd Global Aid for Trade Review.

Item 4: Aid for Trade: A Meta Evaluation [COM/DCD/TAD(2011)1]

6. Members welcomed the study which provides a “meta-evaluation” of the way aid agencies evaluate and assess their trade-related operations – and which was undertaken as part of the OECD’s broader efforts to improve the effectiveness of aid for trade. The study focused on 162 evaluations of operations in two countries - Ghana and Vietnam - and two sectors - transport and storage – between 1999 and 2010. In particular, the study concluded that only in a very small number of cases was trade a true objective of the operations under scrutiny, and where trade and development outcomes were evaluated. Members approved the study for declassification.

Item 5: Strengthening Accountability in Aid for Trade [COM/DCD/TAD(2011)4]

7. The secretariat introduced the study *Strengthening Accountability in Aid for Trade* which will also be presented at the 3rd Global Review of Aid for Trade. The study looks at what the trade and development community needs to know about aid-for-trade results, what past evaluations of programmes and projects reveal about trade outcomes and impacts, and how the trade and development community could improve the performance of aid-for-trade interventions. Members welcomed the study and considered that it provided a solid foundation for where to take the monitoring and evaluation work after the 3rd Global Review of Aid for Trade.

Item 6: Estimating the Constraints to Developing Countries' Trade [COM/DCD/TAD(2011)2 and COM/DCD/TAD/M(2011)1/PROV]

8. The secretariat presented the results of this study which identified and quantified the severity of binding constraints to trade expansion faced by developing countries as well as the importance of the complementary policies that are paramount in maximising the impact of trade reforms on trade and economic growth. The core of the analysis is a cross-country econometric analysis complemented by two case studies. The report looked at the impact of both exports and imports on economic growth (and at the binding constraints they face) for all countries, and, subsequently, different country groupings, mainly landlocked countries, small and vulnerable economies, and commodity exporters. The secretariat also briefly presented a summary of the Expert Meeting on Aid for Trade which took place on March 28-29 at the OECD. The report and presentation were well received and the paper will be declassified.

Item 7: Aid for Trade and Agriculture: draft proposal [COM/DCD/TAD(2011)5]

9. The secretariat presented a proposal to deepen OECD work on the binding constraints to trade expansion by identifying the most binding constraints to partner countries' trade in agriculture and exploring the contribution of aid for trade in supporting trade in agriculture. This study is part of the joint 2011-2012 DAC-TC PWB on Aid for Trade [COM/DCD/TAD(2009)8/REV1] and is largely supported by a voluntary contribution of the European Commission. The proposed analytical study will build on the in-house expertise on agriculture policies, trade policies and aid effectiveness analysis and benefit from TAD and DCD involvement in the monitoring of aid for trade and the international initiative to promote food security. Members welcomed the proposal and urged the secretariat to ensure complementarity with other related work being undertaken.

Item 8: Managing aid to achieve trade results: draft proposal [COM/DCD/TAD(2011)6]

10. Members welcomed the study to examine the feasibility of developing a set of aid-for-trade intervention logics with quantifiable targets and a menu of indicators to measure results (*i.e.* outcomes and impacts) around which donors – including the providers of South-South co-operation – can align their monitoring and evaluations. They highlighted that the objective should be to develop meaningful comparable results frameworks based on country systems to allow for the tracking of progress (results) at country level, and at the same time, satisfy donor accountability requirements. Furthermore, they suggested an expert meeting to work out in more detail the terms of reference including the selection of sectors and pilot countries.

Item 9: Aid for Trade and the 4th HLF on Aid Effectiveness [COM/DCD/TAD(2011)7]

11. The item was introduced by Dr. Talaat Abdel-Malek who informed Members on preparations for the 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness. The secretariat presented a proposal on the aid-for-trade contribution to this event for comment. The WTO representative informed members about the attendance of DG WTO Pascal Lamy and urged Members to make maximum use of his presence. Members welcomed the proposals and argued that aid for trade should play a prominent role in Busan. Dr Abdel-Malek invited the OECD and WTO to make the case for aid for trade at the 7 July meeting of the WP on Aid Effectiveness.

Item 10: Any Other Business

12. Members welcomed the joint OECD–WTO Aid for Trade at a Glance website [www.aid4trade.org] which was presented by the secretariat.

Item 11: Conclusions and Next Steps

13. The next meeting of the DAC/WPTC is expected to take place in November 2011.

**Participants List for Joint Meeting of the DAC and Working Party of the
Trade Committee on Aid for Trade**

17/6/2011

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