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DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

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CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE PANEL DISCUSSION ON HAITI

Special International Panel Discussion on Haiti, 14 April 2010 (11:00 - 13:00)

This document is submitted for INFORMATION for the Special International Panel Discussion on Haiti, which will precede the Senior Level Meeting, starting at 11:00 on 14th April.

This document has been approved by the DAC for submission to, and discussion at, the Special International Panel Discussion on Haiti. It has been developed to situate and guide the discussion.

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**CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE PANEL DISCUSSION ON HAITI
ARE WE ON TRACK TO “BUILD BACK BETTER”?**

1. BACKGROUND

- Haiti was progressively back on the road to recovery (elected government, improved security, return of investors) before a 7.0-magnitude earthquake resulted in the deaths of at least 200,000 people in and around Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on 12 January 2010. Over 3.5 million people have been affected in some way by the natural disaster.
- On immediate donor response has been good. Nevertheless donors have faced many challenges, logistical, security, capacity and coordination fronts.
- The massive amounts of aid channelled to Haiti (over USD 3.2bn pledged or committed as of 15 February 2010)¹ provide an opportunity to rebuild better infrastructure, but also to promote better accountability, better institutions and better resilience. Meeting in Montreal on 25 January, the international community expressed its will to support the Haitian government to ‘build back better’, acknowledging that a decade-long engagement would be required to help reconstruct Haiti. Decisions are currently being taken regarding aid scope and modalities in the run-up to a technical meeting on 16-17 March 2010 in the Dominican Republic and a donor conference on 31 March in New York.

2. Objective and focus of the panel

Responding to relief and recovery needs will present enormous challenges to the government and citizens of Haiti, as well as to the international community.

The SLM panel will take place three months after the disaster and two weeks after the New York donor conference. Building on the results of the OECD INCAF Director-level working dinner of Haiti, which took place on 23 February, the Special Panel will address the following challenge:

Ensuring that OECD principles and good practices are implemented by DAC donors active in Haiti together with their Haitian and international partners.

1. www.haitispecialenvoy.org

In responding to the challenges Haiti presents, recognised OECD DAC good practice principles should be taken into account including i) the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship, ii) the principles for Good International Engagement in Fragile States and Situations, iii) relevant OECD principles and good practice relating to peace and security, and iv) the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.

In supporting application of OECD DAC principles and good practices to the Haitian context, panelists will be asked to address the following questions:

1. Is the international response as currently planned properly set up to “get the job done”?
2. Are donors working in a coherent and coordinated manner, taking advantage of their different skill sets, while ensuring Haitian leadership and oversight?
3. Has the international community properly taken into account the need to stay engaged over the next decade? What can be done to ensure such attention?

3. Format of the Panel Discussion

Introduction to the discussion: OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría

Chair of the Panel:

- Karen Turner - Director of the Office of Development Partners, USAID (confirmed)

Speakers on the Panel:

- Haitian Government, Directeur de Cabinet, Ministry of Planning, Mr. Yves Robert Jean, (confirmed)
- Brazilian Agency for Cooperation Mr. Marco Farani (invited)
- Canadian Ambassador to Haiti, Mr. Gilles Rivard (confirmed)
- EU Director General for Development Cooperation, Mr. Stefano Manservigi (confirmed)
- French Ambassador, Inter-ministerial mission for recovery in Haiti, M. Pierre Duquesne (confirmed)
- Mexican Director General for Technical and Scientific Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Maximo Romero Jimenez (confirmed)
- Spanish Ambassador at Large for the Reconstruction of Haiti, Mrs. Cristina Barrios (confirmed)

Rapporteur:

- OECD DAC Development Cooperation Directorate, Deputy Director, Steve Groff

ANNEX: THE OECD'S CONTRIBUTION: ADVISING ON GOOD PRACTICE AND GUIDANCE, PROMOTING DIALOGUE AND TRACKING RESULTS

As invited by GoH, the OECD will make a number of strategic contributions to support the effort in Haiti:

1. The OECD will **track DAC members' aid pledges and commitments to Haiti**. The OECD successfully undertook this vital service following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, which helped to build confidence in the aid effort.

2. The OECD, through the DAC, will act as a mechanism to **ensure that donor co-ordination, national leadership and national accountability are prioritised** in line with the DAC-endorsed Principles for Good Humanitarian Donorship, the OECD Principles for Good International Engagement in Fragile States and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The pressure to “get the job done” should not, to the extent possible, undermine sustainable development outcomes.

- The DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) **Fragile States Survey in Haiti** (approved by the Haitian government, CSOs and international actors) offers evidence from the ground on challenges that predate the earthquake, notably: a disconnect between the political and economic elites and ordinary citizens; an excessive focus on the so-called “Republic of Port-au-Prince” and the marginalization of rural populations.
- The OECD, through the DAC's Network on Development Evaluation, will ensure that donor actions are informed by **lessons from past efforts in recovery** by drawing on the findings of relevant evaluations.

3. The OECD-hosted Partnership for Democratic Governance (PDG) in partnership with the Public Governance Committee (PGC) and the Territorial Development and Policy Committee (TDPC) will promote a **Service Delivery Guidance** to explore and advise on modalities for effective public governance and public-private partnerships in Haiti, focusing on matching needs with private and non-governmental service providers.

4. The OECD will support the design and implementation of **private sector development**. It will help with building capacities for long-term planning, analysing opportunities for growth, defining priorities for public investment, designing institutions and governance schemes, and providing good practices on appropriate budget tools.