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DCD/DAC/ENV/M(2010)1/PROV

Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

20-Apr-2010

English - Or. English

**DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

DAC Network on Environment and Development Co-operation

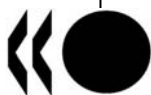
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 10TH MEETING

held at the OECD Conference Centre, 23-24 February 2010

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JT03282079

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DAC NETWORK ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 10TH MEETING

Paris, OECD Headquarters, 23-24 February 2010

ITEM 1. Adoption of the Agenda and Re-Election of the Co-Chair and Bureau

1. The ENVIRONET Co-Chairs Ms. Birgitte Markussen of Denmark, and Mr. Jon Hobbs, UK, welcomed members to the meeting. The EU, seconded by Sweden, proposed the re-election of the existing Co-Chairs and Bureau, which members welcomed. The Bureau members are Mr. Erwin Kuenzi of Austria, Mr. Matti Nummelin of Finland, and Mr. Tomonori Sudo of Japan. Mr. Steve Groff, Deputy Director of DCD, and new participants were introduced. Ms. Markussen announced that she had been appointed Danish Ambassador to Burkina Faso and Mr. Hobbs announced that he too will be leaving to join the private sector. Nomination will therefore be sought for new Co-Chairs.

2. The draft agenda [DCD/DAC/ENV/A(2010)1] was approved and adopted with minor changes proposed by the ENVIRONET Secretariat.

Item 2. Approval of the Summary Record of the 9th ENVIRONET Meeting

3. The summary record [DCD/DAC/ENV/M(2009)1/PROV] was approved.

Item 3. Tour de Table: Implications of the outcomes of the Conference of the Parties in Copenhagen for ENVIRONET work

4. Ms. Markussen chaired the session and opened the discussions by providing some of her own perspectives on the Copenhagen conference. She stressed the positive outcomes of the meeting, including the high level attendance at the summit, the commitment to a below 2°C increase in global temperature, provisions for fast start finance, and the agreement on the Copenhagen Accord which has been supported by 101 countries to date. In terms of implications for ENVIRONET, she emphasised climate change as a development issue and the need to deliver fast start finance promptly and transparently. She stressed that there is much work to do before the next COP in November 2010 in Mexico.

5. Mr. Steve Groff, Deputy Director of the Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD), brought ENVIRONET members up to date on developments in the DAC, including the DAC reflection exercise, the role of the subsidiary bodies and the Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium (2011-2012). He stressed the importance of environment and climate change as key policy issues for the DAC in the coming 3-4 years. The issues of global development governance and green growth are also directly relevant to the work of ENVIRONET.

6. The tour de table allowed members to reflect on the outcomes of Copenhagen and to highlight implications for the work of ENVIRONET. Many members noted that the outcome from Copenhagen fell short of their expectations but saw the Copenhagen Accord as a step in the right direction and something which could be built upon to achieve a legally binding agreement.

7. Most members felt ENVIRONET and the DAC could play a role related to defining, delivering and reporting fast start finance (FSF). Likewise members felt the DAC may be able to provide assistance in clarifying 'new and additional' in the context of climate finance. It was felt that ENVIRONET may provide a forum for the exchange of information on fast start finance and the gathering of information from members on provisions for FSF. This would help to better communicate what OECD members are doing in response to the Copenhagen Accord.

8. Members stressed the importance of delivering FSF to build trust between developed and developing nations in the UNFCCC process and felt ENVIRONET may be well placed to play a role in this regard. Korea stated that the OECD's Green Growth agenda could also help to build trust by promoting environmentally friendly partnerships between developed and developing countries. They also informed members of the OECD Green Growth workshop to be held in Korea on 4-5 March and stressed the potential for ENVIRONET and POVNET to engage actively with this initiative in order to ensure a balance between the environment and growth.

9. Finland felt ENVIRONET was well placed to engage on issues related to adaptation to climate change and capacity building for climate change, and that progress in these areas would help to build trust with developing countries. Likewise support for developing countries to pursue low carbon development pathways would be critical to the future success of the UNFCCC process.

10. France, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Australia and others raised the importance of forests and the reference to a REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) Plus mechanism in the Copenhagen Accord. France will organise a meeting on 11 March with the main tropical forest countries on REDD.

11. The Netherlands and France stressed the importance of the fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which will require more than 4.5 billion dollars in the coming months, and is one of the key instruments for addressing climate change in developing countries.

12. In addition, members discussed the importance of preparing for post 2012 climate financing, effectively communicating the financial support being provided by members, the need to get non-OECD member buy-in to the Rio markers, the need for additional guidance on mainstreaming adaptation into development co-operation for desk officers, the need to enhance links with the African group who were well organised at COP 15, the role of the DAC in supporting financial reporting and M&E of climate actions, the need to consider the social aspects of green growth, and the challenge of reflecting the Paris Aid Effectiveness Principles in the climate change negotiations.

13. Finally the Netherlands drew attention to the Fifth Global Environmental Outlook which will be published this year. It was proposed that ENVIRONET has a great deal to offer from its work on Governance and Capacity Development for Environment and Natural Resource Management to inform the policy context of this work.

14. Observer organisations also expressed disappointment with the outcomes from Copenhagen and pointed to the significant challenge that lies ahead to get a meaningful agreement. The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) stressed the need to acknowledge the powerful groups who were pushing for no agreement. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) stressed the importance of making the links between biodiversity and climate change recalling that 2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) drew attention to the positive inclusion of agriculture in the outcomes from Copenhagen, and the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) stressed the need to focus on the impacts of climate change in drylands. The World Bank offered to share information generated through studies and pilot initiatives.

Item 4. World Bank Presentation of their New Environment Strategy.

15. Ms. Urvashi Narain, presented the new World Bank Environment Strategy, including the consultation process and results to date.

16. Issues discussed included: i) the role of the Bank in helping developing countries to achieve sustainable development; ii) the role of the IFC and MIGA in helping private sector stakeholders achieve sustainable development; iii) the balance in the Bank Group's role between addressing country / client

specific priorities and global public goods agendas; and iv) how the World Bank Group could ensure environmental sustainability across its entire portfolio.

17. In summarising the discussions, the Chair drew attention to the following issues which should inform the Strategy: i) the need for clear definitions of issues such as sustainability, green growth and trade-offs; ii) the need to address environment and climate change together and not to separate these issues; iii) the need to clarify the ‘how’ – i.e. how the strategy will be implemented, the modalities that will be used; and iv) the need to include references to the political economy in environment policy-making.

Item 5. Capacity Development for Environment: Update on Progress and Future Work of the Task Team on Governance and Capacity Development for Environmental and Natural Resources Management
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18. **The Secretariat** (Ms. Tamara Levine), provided an update on the work of the Joint Environment-Development Task Team on Governance and Capacity Development for Natural Resources and Environmental Management. Mr. Jim Hradsky from the DCD Secretariat highlighted how this work on a Country System Approach to CDE fits into the broader DAC work on Capacity Development and the importance of linking this work to the fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness Korea.

19. The Secretariat (Tamara Levine) highlighted that the work of the Task Team is currently led by Norway (Ms. Idunn Eidheim) and UNDP/UNEP (Mr. John Horberry). This phase of the Task Team is focusing on the development of Policy Guidance on a Capacity Development for Environment (CDE).

20. Updates were provided from the last Task Team meeting which took place on 24-25 September 2009. At this Task Team meeting, members endorsed a table of contents for the Policy Guidance on CDE as well as preliminary background material for the first two chapters. At this meeting it was agreed that this Guidance will focus on capacities for integrating environment into country systems such as national systems for planning, public financial management and procurement, as well as looking at capacity for integrating environment into key economic sectors. It will also focus on capacities for strengthening these systems and sectors for environment and natural resource management and governance.

21. The presentation also highlighted the co-operation with partner countries in the development of the Guidance. The Secretariat pointed to the opportunity to seek partner country views on the Guidance at the Poverty Environment Partnership meeting that will take place in Malawi during the 1st week of March.

22. The next meeting of the Task Team is planned for 21 May 2010 in Paris. To maximize inputs from developing country experts, a “buddy system” is envisaged whereby members are requested to bring with them colleagues from partner countries. In addition, Norway offered to provide funding for partner country participation in Task Team meetings in 2010 and ten partner country experts have been identified to be invited to the next meeting.

23. At the next Task Team four documents will be discussed: (i) A Framework for Chapter 3 on Capacity Development for Integrating Environment into Public Financial Management; (ii) A Framework for Chapter 6 on Capacity Development for Environment in Donor Agencies; (iii) an analytical report on CDE in the agriculture sector; and (iv) and an analytical report on CDE in the energy sector. The final guidance is envisaged to be ready in time for the fourth High Level Meeting on Aid effectiveness to be held in Korea in the latter part of 2011.

Item 6. DAC Guidance on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): Monitoring Implementation Progress and Report Back on Workshop on Country Level Environmental Analysis

a) Strategic Environmental Assessment: Monitoring Implementation Progress

24. An update was provided on progress achieved by the Task Team since the last ENVIRONET Meeting, and on key outcomes of the Task Team Meeting hosted by IADB on 1-2 December 2009. The Task Team, under the chairmanship of Mr. Peter Croal (Canada), is now focusing on promoting and monitoring the application of the Guidance and implementation of SEA in development co-operation. The report *SEA in Practice in Development Co-operation: A Review of Recent Experiences* is being finalised. This document highlights good practice case studies, as well as generic issues on SEA, capacity development issues and challenges, and lessons learned. In addition a new Advisory Note on Biofuels is under preparation.

25. Discussions focused on the future of the Task Team. Most DAC Task Teams are set up to deliver a specific task and are then disbanded. Co-Chair John Hobbs reminded members that the SEA TT has reinvented itself several times already, in response to new tasks and that it has a membership of over 100 specialists. There was consensus among members that the Task Team produces quality outputs and that many countries still need support in rolling out SEA. Some members felt there was potential to merge the SEA work with the work of the Joint Task Team on Governance and Capacity Development for Environmental and Natural Resources Management. Others felt the SEA TT was still playing an important role and should be continued in order to facilitate the sharing of experience in applying SEA. There were also comments about the need to carefully manage resources, linked to the current DAC budget discussions, and to limit the number of active task teams to demonstrate efficiencies. The Secretariat reminded members that the SEA TT has its own Secretariat, provided by IIED, and does not require intensive support from the ENVIRONET Secretariat.

26. Overall members were interested in exploring ways to streamline the work of existing task teams but agreed that the future of the Task Team should be revisited after the fourth High Level Forum.

b) Report Back on Workshop on Country-Level Environmental Analysis

27. The SEA Task Team has addressed the need for greater co-ordination and harmonisation of environmental analytic work at the country/local donor group level since October 2008. At a workshop organised back to back with the last ENVIRONET Meeting, it was agreed to develop a survey of Country Level Environmental Activities as well as a pilot project on a harmonized Country Level Environmental Analysis (CEA). These issues were discussed at the SEA Task Team meeting on 1-2 December 2009.

28. **Mr. Simon Le Grand**, (EU) presented the work of the UN, MDBs, the European Commission and the World Bank on reducing duplication in country-level environment assessment. Draft Terms of Reference for a Pilot Country Level Environmental Analysis were presented to members and comments were invited.

29. Members welcomed the initiative to strengthen donor harmonisation in country environmental analysis. They suggested to use one of the countries involved in the UNDP/UN Poverty Environment Initiative as a pilot case i) to ensure country leadership of the process; ii) to ensure synergies across multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and funding streams; iii) to ensure that CEA activities fit with the planning cycle of the pilot country; iv) to ensure a focus on harmonising outputs and not just tools; v) to avoid creating a blueprint approach and to focus instead on the process; and vi) to frame the exercise as a development and not an environment exercise. They also pointed to the need to examine how to apply the approach in the context of fragile states.

Item 7. Climate Change and Development: Update on progress and future work of the Task Team on Climate Change

30. The Joint DAC/ENVIRONET- EPOC/WPGSP Task Team on Climate Change and Development Co-operation prepared a *Policy Statement* and a *Policy Guidance on Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development Co-operation* which was endorsed at the Joint DAC-EPOC High Level Meeting on 28-29 May 2009. This Guidance has been widely disseminated by ENVIRONET Members in various relevant fora.

31. At its meeting on 28-29 January 2010, in Zurich, the Joint Environment-Development Task Team on Climate Change discussed the focus of its future work. This includes: i) Harmonization of climate assessment and screening tools; ii) the scope for integrating climate change considerations into existing Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures; iii) analysis of climate change responses in the context of selected sectors/themes; and iv) work on monitoring and evaluation of climate change adaptation responses.

32. The **Secretariat** (Mr. Remy Paris) provided a summary of the Task Team meeting and an update on options for future work, and how this could be undertaken, in light of discussions at the joint DAC-EPOC HLM. Members supported the continued work of the Task Team on climate change which is a priority for many agencies. Questions were raised as to how the issue of adaptation financing could be addressed by the Task Team. The Secretariat responded that finance issues are best addressed at the level of ENVIRONET and not the Task Team and informed members that the ENVIRONET Secretariat will provide inputs on climate change financing to the issues paper to be discussed at the next DAC Senior Level Meeting in April 2010.

33. Several members supported the proposed work on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation and on the development of sectoral guidance. Suggestions were made to consider the integration of adaptation at supranational level in the context of trans-boundary resources. Suggestions were also made to link the work of the Task Team to ongoing work on community-based adaptation, led by IIED, and for members to continue to disseminate the guidance, especially in partner countries. It was also proposed that the UNEP adaptation network could be a good forum for sharing the guidance with developing country partners.

Item 8. Biodiversity and Development Co-operation

34. The Co-Chair (Ms. Birgitte Markusen) recalled that following a proposal from Japan, the DAC requested ENVIRONET to develop a Policy Statement on Integrating Biodiversity and Associated Ecosystem Services into Development Co-operation. A first Draft was circulated to ENVIRONET Members for comments in December 2009. The document will be submitted for formal endorsement by the DAC Senior Level Meeting on 14-15 April 2010, in advance of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to be held in Nagoya, Japan, in November 2010. Members were invited to comment on the Draft Policy Statement and to outline their views as to what further work ENVIRONET should undertake on this topic over the period 2011-2012.

35. The **Secretariat** (Mr. Remy Paris) presented the draft policy statement and suggested an alternative structure to streamline the document. Members welcomed the draft statement and thanked Japan for the initial draft. They supported the proposal for streamlining made by the Secretariat and made suggestions for further amendments. The purpose of the statement was also clarified – namely to raise attention to the importance of biodiversity in development co-operation.

36. An update was provided by the **OECD Secretariat** (Ms. Katia Karousakis) on the work of the EPOC – Working Group on Economic Aspects of Biodiversity and possible inputs to the Policy Statement. The **CBD secretariat** (Ms. Linda Ghanime) provided an update on the CBD process including the new strategic plan to be adopted at the COP later this year. Ms. Ghanime provided an overview of the CBD

comments on the draft policy statement and stressed the value of creating a stronger role for biodiversity in development co-operation.

37. In summarising the discussion, the Co-Chair requested that the **Secretariat** revise the Policy Statement and circulate it to ENVIRONET for comments. The draft Policy Statement will be submitted to the DAC by 16 March, before submission to the DAC SLM in April for adoption.

Item 9. OECD Work on Green Growth

38. The Co-Chair (Mr. Jon Hobbs) recalled that the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in June 2009 had adopted the Declaration on Green Growth, acknowledging that “green” and “growth” can go hand-in-hand. It endorsed a mandate for the OECD to develop a Green Growth Strategy. To this end, an interim report should be delivered to the 2010 MCM, and the final report to 2011 MCM.

39. The Declaration makes an explicit reference to the DAC by stating: “We underline the special need to co-ordinate international development co-operation activities in order to help developing countries promote green growth, recognising the role of the OECD DAC in this regard”. In line with this, the ENVIRONET Secretariat has been working to develop material on pro-poor green growth for inclusion in the OECD Green Growth Strategy. In addition, DAC/ENVIRONET and EPOC/Working Party on Global and Structural Policies (WPGSP), will be undertaking more in-depth work to identify the scope for development co-operation to support pro-poor green growth and low carbon development and to take advantage of the synergies between climate change adaptation and mitigation. This work will be conducted under the leadership of Finland and Japan.

40. The **Secretariat** (Mr. Remy Paris and Ms. Jane Ellis, ENV) gave an update on the work of DAC/ENVIRONET and EPOC/WPGSP in the area of green growth. Members were invited to share their views on green growth and links to development co-operation. Overall, members welcomed the engagement of ENVIRONET with the issue and felt it was important to engage with and inform deliberations on this high profile issue.

41. The discussion centred on 3 main issues: i) the opportunities provided by the fact that green growth is on the global agenda and has political attention; ii) the type of analysis that is needed, for example understanding the drivers of and obstacles to green growth and defining green growth vis-à-vis low carbon development; and iii) the principles to be observed, in particular equity, aid effectiveness and international environmental governance.

Item 10. Environment in DAC Peer Reviews

42. This item was for the information of members and provided an update on Peer Reviews undertaken in 2009-2010. In this period, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, Japan and Germany selected climate change and environment as a “special topic” for their peer reviews.

43. **The Secretariat** (Ms. Jolanda Profos of DCD’s Peer Review Division) provided an outline of progress to date in addressing climate change and environment in ongoing peer reviews and outlined possible approaches for ENVIRONET to support this process. She highlighted that the DAC has an agreed “Contents Guide” to ensure that all Members receive similar examination. She also noted that a review of experience to date will be carried out at the end of 2010.

44. Members who had undergone a peer review with environment as a special topic emphasised the importance of preparing for peer reviews in advance and to inform key interlocutors. They also highlighted the challenges involved in capturing the complexity of the topic in 4-5 pages. The balance between climate change and more general environment issues has led to confusion in some cases. Training is needed to develop the capacity of examiners and staff in the Secretariat in the area of climate change and environment. At times specialist knowledge is required and this may need to be addressed in the future. At

the same time, they suggested that the inclusion of environment and climate change as a special topic in a peer review can help to raise the profile of the issue within agencies.

45. Members indicated that they would like to maintain environment and climate change as a special topic in the next biennium (2011-2012) and stressed the need to maintain a broad environment focus. More developed linking of these issues to the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action was also considered important. They agreed that a positive rather than a defensive approach to peer reviews makes the process more meaningful and informative.

**Item 11. Statistical Reporting of Aid Targeting the Objectives of the Rio Conventions:
Status Report on the Joint ENVIRONET/WP-STAT Task Team**

46. **The Secretariat** provided an overview of the outcomes of the third meeting of the Joint ENVIRONET/WP-STAT Task Team held on 22 February in Paris. This included information on the quality review of the Rio Markers and information on the new adaptation marker.

47. Members raised questions related to the use of the markers by multilateral institutions and options for quantification of the markers for reporting purposes. The Secretariat reminded members that the Rio markers are qualitative tools and cannot be used quantitatively although some initiatives are underway to test possible options for their quantification. In relation to multilaterals the Secretariat reported that the World Bank, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, IFAD and others are looking a ways of using the Rio markers to track expenditure related to the Rio Conventions.

Item 11. Other Business

48. Co-Chair Mr. John Hobbs explained that a planned presentation on the mining sector and environmental due diligence could not be delivered as the person in question was unable to attend.

49. Co-Chair Ms. Birgitte Markussen gave an overall summary of the meeting, stressing two key issues:

1. COP 15 & Green growth

- The emergence of a new, more open DAC can play a significant role in the new global geometry governance regime.
- ENVIRONET can play a role in trust building by improving transparency and openness in reporting of climate financing and in highlighting and developing the links between development co-operation, climate change and green growth.

2. Task Team status

- For the SEA Task team the status quo prevails until after the High Level Forum in Korea. However there is a need to streamline work, bring together common threads and consider the most appropriate structures to progress priority work.

The next meeting of ENVIRONET will take place on 23 and 24 November, back to back with a meeting of the Joint Task Team on the Rio Markers on 22 November 2010.

DAC NETWORK ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION (ENVIRONET)



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