

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

**DCD/DAC/M(2008)5/FINAL
For Official Use**

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FORTY-SIXTH HIGH LEVEL MEETING

held on 20-21 May 2008 at the OECD Conference Centre, Paris

This Summary Record was APPROVED at the DAC meeting on 16 September 2008, pending amendments to Paragraph 24, which are incorporated in this final version.

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Dinner for Heads of Delegation

Whole-of-Government Approaches to Situations of Conflict and Fragility [DCD/DAC(2008)23/REV2]

1. The first lead speaker, Mr. Bert Koenders, Minister for Development Co-operation, the Netherlands, stressed that whole-of-government approaches were going to be more important in the future and that flexible staffing and financing systems were needed for effective implementation. He also called on donors to accept more risks, particularly when working on security system reform, and emphasised that realities on the ground should dictate international responses, against which results must be demonstrated. The second lead speaker, Mr. Bruce Davis, Director General, AusAID, highlighted the need to address situations in decline, in addition to post-conflict states. Australia's lessons from its region included the importance of sharing upstream analysis and getting the right leadership mechanisms in place. Dilemmas included how to balance capacity development needs with urgent service delivery imperatives, as well as ensuring that fiduciary concerns are addressed whilst protecting relationships with partners.

2. From his unique perspective as minister for both development and defence in Luxembourg, Mr. Jean-Louis Schiltz emphasised the importance of keeping the management of resources for security and development separate, as well as the need to make existing strategic planning frameworks work, as opposed to creating new ones. The Norwegian State Secretary for International Development, Mr. Håkon Gulbrandsen, stressed the need to be political, flexible and practical. He also asked, in looking ahead, whether the difficult cases of deteriorating governance could be avoided. Partially in response to these speakers, Mr. Mario Amano, Deputy Secretary General of OECD, suggested that joint analysis within governments and among donors, as well as pooled staffing arrangements and secondments, were practical ways forward.

3. In the discussion that followed, a range of co-ordinating structures or approaches were presented (e.g. Canada's Cabinet Committee on Afghanistan and the United Kingdom's Public Service Agreements), with varying progress among members. The meeting also noted UK's recent experience with the defence ministry spending Official Development Assistance (ODA) resources. However, it was evident that more work was needed to get the right staffing and financing modalities in place—particularly where defence expenditures outweighed development inputs—as well as to carry out training across different policy communities.

4. In terms of partnerships and future engagement, participants stressed the importance of taking regional approaches to situations of conflict and fragility. Furthermore, it was equally important to engage with non-DAC donors, as many were increasingly active in fragile situations. Taxpayers and parliaments in OECD countries also needed to be persuaded to invest in high-risk fragile situations. Concerning key issues that required attention, participants highlighted the role of women, the lack of democracy and human rights, and employment initiatives.

5. Finally, Switzerland's offer to host a senior officials' meeting on whole-of-government approaches was welcomed, as many of the concerns raised by the HLM participants could be addressed, together with the findings from the three thematic meetings. In conclusion, the DAC Chair expressed his appreciation for the HLM's encouragement for the DAC's work on this topic and confirmed the agreement to proceed with the Swiss hosted senior officials' meeting in early 2009.

Breakfast for Heads of Delegation

Rising Food Prices: Implications for Development Co-operation [DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD1, DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD2, and Policy Brief on Agriculture: Improving Policy Coherence for Development]

6. In her keynote address, Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, Director of US Foreign Assistance and Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), reviewed the demand and supply factors driving the dramatic increase in food prices, presented the US response to the global food crises, and called on the international community to work together to find effective short, medium and long term responses to the crisis. She stated that swift, innovative and well-targeted humanitarian and food aid addressed directly the immediate threat of hunger. In particular, food aid focused mainly on urban environments and rural landless, which will increasingly depend on local purchase (where USAID was given this authority), supplemented by critical nutritional interventions and increased access to farm inputs. These measures will support political and economic stability in the short term as well as the transition to non-emergency social protection and increased food production in the longer-term. The last will be achieved by enhancing investments in agriculture and research to boost productivity—including through public-private partnerships—and by improving the efficiency of value chains.

7. The United States (US) urges countries to end restrictions on accepting biotechnology-based crops to enable the deployment to South Asia wheat varieties that are stem rust resistant, but also to accept investments in the development of drought tolerant rice and wheat. Investments in targeting food markets and improving regional trade corridors will foster trade and the rapid movement of food from areas with excess supply to where shortages are occurring. Close international co-operation on sound policies are needed in whole-of-government approaches. Furthermore, political leadership can help resolve the food price crises and bring progress on agreements on the Doha trade round.

8. Mr. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD, added that rising food prices required multilateral co-ordination and decision-making, including for short-term humanitarian response, which should preferably be provided in cash rather than in kind in order to maintain local markets. However, while humanitarian aid is important, he stressed that it cannot be repeated every year. While prices are expected to decline from the current peak, they will still level off at 35% to 40% higher than before the crises, thus threatening developing countries' growth and poverty reduction. The development challenge is therefore to assist the poor to cope with these higher prices and to turn the agricultural sector into an engine of growth. This requires a global response and a long-term perspective based on solid analysis and evidence. He stated that the OECD is about to launch a horizontal programme on food prices, using its convening role and comparative advantage to propose policy responses.

9. In the ensuing discussion, participants shared information on their agencies' contributions to alleviate the global food crises. Key points made included the need for: attention on fiscal policy adjustments, social protection schemes and temporary subsidies for fertilizers and food; cash for poor people (e.g. cash transfer, vouchers, local purchase of food aid) and avoid shipping food or creating dependencies (Canada announced it has now fully untied its food aid, with special efforts on local purchases in developing countries); considering poverty reduction in a comprehensive rural development approach, i.e. addressing the crises beyond agriculture and avoiding an immediate "panic" increase in agricultural investment followed by a later pull back; policy coherence in the Doha trade negotiations, being a unique opportunity that calls for whole-of-government approaches; and minimising time loss on theoretical debates on good or bad technologies, more or less biofuel, etc.

10. Participants agreed that these messages should be transmitted to the Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM). The Chair concluded that the DAC will continue to co-operate with other policy committees and

relevant international organisations on this matter, particularly by taking an active role in the next stages of OECD work on these issues.

1. Adoption of the Agenda [DCD/DAC/A/(2008)6/REV1]

11. The Chair opened the official meeting by recalling that important decisions needed to be made on aid effectiveness, untying, ODA predictability, division of labour, Outreach Strategy, the Reflection Exercise, climate change, and others, which could influence directions of upcoming major international conferences. The Agenda was then adopted without comment.

Welcome Address by the Secretary-General

12. The Secretary General welcomed participants to an unprecedented HLM with so many important global issues on the agenda. He pointed out that this fact illustrated the increased need for inclusive and equitable global approaches to bring about sustainable improvements in all human lives. In this context, he positioned the multidisciplinary OECD as the hub of policy dialogue on globalisation and encouraged the DAC to be contributing to the horizontal projects on climate change and innovation, as well as the upcoming project on development, which focuses on agriculture and related issues.

2. The Political Agenda for Development Co-operation in 2008

a) Accra, New York and Doha - Connecting Processes and Outcomes: DAC Chair's Update

13. The DAC Chair described the linkages between the Accra High Level Forum (HLF) on Aid Effectiveness and other high-level events on development co-operation in 2008, such as the Development Co-operation Forum in July, the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Summit in September and the Financing for Development follow up conference in November-December. He stressed that aid effectiveness is a global political issue, with the Accra HLF outcome becoming critical not only for implementing the Paris Declaration, but also for showing progress on scaling up and reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). DAC Ministers and Heads of Agencies must therefore send a clear message on accelerating progress by removing bottlenecks to implement the Paris Declaration, especially in the priority areas identified by partner countries.

b) Aid Effectiveness – Towards Accra

14. Minister Schiltz opened the discussion by urging participants to address the priority areas of partner countries with ambition and courage. He also encouraged DAC Members to do more to fulfil their ODA commitments made in 2005, noting that 2007 had been a bad year with aid volumes being off-track to reach the Gleneagles targets. The European Commissioner, Mr. Louis Michel, stated that the Accra HLF would be a credibility test for donors and described how the European Union was preparing for it with a focus on division of labour, use of country systems, results-based management and predictable multi-year aid programmes. He also urged DAC Members to raise the political momentum for all the key events in 2008.

i) Overview of the Accra Process from the Chair of the WP-EFF [DCD/DAC(2008)29]

15. The Chair of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP-EFF), Mr. Jan Cedergren, gave an overview of preparations for the Accra HLF by the Working Party, civil society organisations, non-DAC donors (convened by Japan and Russia), parliamentarians, regional development banks, and partner countries. He also noted the lack of progress shown in the 2008 monitoring survey compared to 2005, particularly on ownership, alignment with country systems, harmonisation, managing for development

results and mutual accountability. He stressed that DAC Members must take bold actions to ensure that Accra will not become just another conference but will make a significant difference to development.

ii) *The Donor Contribution to Accra: Key Issues [DCD/DAC(2008)32/REV1]*

16. HLM participants agreed that progress on aid effectiveness was essential in reaching the MDGs—the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) must therefore show serious political commitment to translate the Paris Declaration into concrete actions. In particular, more progress should be made in the six priority areas identified by partner countries—predictability, division of labour, conditionality, donor incentives, capacity development and untying. Several participants called for stretching targets, especially on predictability, transparency and untying, as well as improving performance on multi-year predictability, even though this would be difficult in some cases. On the other hand, participants also saw the need for partner countries to show strong political commitment by improving governance and deepening ownership through greater inclusion of parliaments and civil society in agreeing and monitoring development strategies.

17. The DAC Chair summarised the discussion, noting that participants welcomed the wide engagement of developing countries and civil society in the Accra process, particularly in identifying key priorities for pushing further the implementation of the Paris Declaration principles. Against this background, DAC members were ready to commit to some broad areas and specific actions, which included:

- Actively contribute to partner countries efforts to deepen their *ownership* of their development process by investing in and relying more on their development strategies, systems, and capacities — by accelerating transfer of the responsibility for managing development programmes to partner countries; designing programme conditions that reinforce partner countries' ownership; strengthening the capacities of all development stakeholders; paying special attention to the integration of gender, human rights and environmental aspects in partner countries' development policies; making use to the maximum extent of partner countries' strengthened systems for managing public resources (domestic and external); and supporting the strengthening of parliaments and domestic accountability systems in partner countries.
- *Strengthen mutual accountability for development results at all levels* — ensuring full transparency by providing partner countries with regular and timely information on our annual and multi-annual aid flows and activities so that partner governments can account to their parliaments and citizens on the full use of development resources (domestic and external); strengthening monitoring mechanisms to build a collaborative and credible system of mutual accountability.
- *Promote more inclusive partnerships to improve aid effectiveness* — by ensuring that aid is more effectively allocated and managed on a global scale and in specific country contexts, including fragile states, and addressing major challenges such as food prices and climate change; supporting and recognising the contribution of a more diverse range of providers of development assistance with different mandates, experiences and historical traditions, and working with them on the social and environmental dimensions of development; recognising the importance and diversity of civil society and of CSOs as political and development actors in their own right; and working constructively with the private sector.

18. Furthermore, as a contribution to help build consensus with partner countries on the AAA, participants agreed to take the following decisive actions to accelerate progress in the six priority areas identified by partner countries:

- ***Strengthen demand driven capacity development*** — We will design our technical cooperation as part of collective efforts to support partner countries capacity development objectives and, in doing so we will rely increasingly on local or regional expertise.
- ***Increase medium-term predictability*** — We will provide partner countries regular and timely information on our three-year forward expenditure and/or implementation plans so that partner countries can integrate these in their medium-term planning and macroeconomic frameworks.
- ***Improve application of conditions***— We will apply conditions in ways that strengthen partner countries ownership and focus on results.
- ***Make progress on division of labour*** — We will concentrate our aid efforts in partner countries, under their leadership, whilst ensuring all partner countries receive adequate support.
- ***Donor incentives*** — We will specify job profiles and staff assessments criteria that will induce practices that are in line with the commitments agreed in Paris.
- ***Untie aid*** — We will extend coverage of the 2001 DAC Recommendation on untying aid to non-LDC HIPC countries and we will promote local and regional procurement, while calling upon non-DAC countries to untie their aid in parallel and to promote respect for internationally agreed principles of corporate social and environmental responsibility.

19. On untying, participants agreed to extend the coverage of the 2001 DAC Recommendation on Untying Aid to the Least Developed Countries (LDC) to the eight Heavily Indebted Poor Countries that were not covered due to their non-LDC status (*i.e.* Bolivia, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Republic of Congo). At the same time, they expressed the need for non-DAC donors to untie their aid in parallel and to promote respect for internationally agreed principles of corporate social and environmental responsibility. In particular, Japan expressed its reservation and concern over the extension of the coverage, including the issue of corporate social and environmental responsibility. Its statement, as well as that of Belgium, are included in Annex 2.

20. Participants also agreed on working towards good practices to promote local and regional procurement. However, some participants stated that they would have preferred more ambitious agreements to cover, *inter alia*, other Low Income Countries, food aid, or technical cooperation, particularly after the Working Party on Statistics has completed its work on reclassifying the different components of aid flows.

c) *ODA Prospects and Issues [DCD/DAC(2008)26/REV2]*

21. In opening this topic, the Chair observed that, based on preliminary figures for 2007, ODA had only increased 15% from its 2004 baseline, compared with the projected 60% rise that the Secretariat simulated by using promises made at the Gleneagles G8 Summit and 2005 UN Summit. This suggested that, if the commitments are to be fulfilled by 2010, time was running out to lift aid levels in a way that allowed recipient countries to absorb them smoothly.

22. The lead speaker, Mr. Adolf Kloke-Lesch, Director General of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development, pointed out that although the European Union (EU), G7 and

total DAC ODA had all fallen in 2007, the trend was up if debt cancellation was omitted, including a 9% increase from the EU. In particular, Spain was making good progress on ODA volume, the United Kingdom (UK) had announced major increases, and IDA and AfDF had received encouraging replenishments. Therefore, it was important to maintain the conviction that attaining the volume targets was still possible, especially in the run-up to the Hokkaido Toyako G8 Summit, as well as the EU Council in June where means of meeting targets would be considered. At the same time, he stated that developing countries must also play their part in maintaining support for aid, e.g. by observing human rights, increasing transparency, rooting out corruption, and using resources appropriately. A similar view on mutual accountability was expressed by other participants.

23. In the discussion that followed, the European Commission stated that its members accounted for nearly 60% of ODA in 2007 and are expected to account for 90% of the scaling up promised for 2010. However, a few EU members were not increasing their aid in line with their promises, which was undermining the credibility of collective efforts. EU Development Ministers will therefore shortly discuss the need for multi-annual timetables.

24. Other participants mentioned that, as aid volume promises needed to be met to attain the MDGs, the DAC's work to analyse future aid levels and identify fragmentation issues was considered important¹. On the other hand, the US stressed that care should be taken to report individual members' commitments accurately and to distinguish them from collective efforts and also stated that it had met or was on track to meet its commitments. Furthermore, the UK invited the Secretariat to recheck and confirm its estimate reported in the Gleneagles communiqué that members' commitments would lead to an increase in real terms of USD 50 billion between 2004 and 2010.

25. While recognising the need to reduce aid volatility and provide greater predictability—especially over a three-year time frame—many members had difficulties in multi-year budgeting but saw the benefits of more discussions on this, including by using the DAC survey. Others pointed to the need to examine the totality of financing, including domestic financing and international private philanthropy—bearing in mind that aid could also leverage these flows.

26. The Chair stated that there was a broad consensus to meet Monterrey targets, which was necessary to maintain credibility and the trust of recipients, and that it was unacceptable not to keep these commitments. Furthermore, he noted that, although some members may not be able to make firm multi-year promises on ODA levels, more work could be done to communicate indicative funding levels. Finally, he returned to the first point of the morning session on the important links between the Accra and Doha processes, which needed to be co-ordinated within an overall political context.

Lunch for Heads of Delegation

The Changing Landscape of Development Co-operation and the Future Role of the DAC

- a) *DAC Outreach Strategy [DCD/DAC(2008)22/REV1]; and***
- b) *Terms of Reference: DAC Strategic Reflection Exercise [DCD/DAC(2008)28/REV1]***

27. In his opening statement, Mr. Joao Gomes Cravinho, Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, Portugal, mentioned that the important functions of the DAC as a forum for donor co-ordination and keeper of ODA statistics should be enhanced in the future. In this context, it will be important for the DAC Reflection Exercise to take into account the new global players and their roles.

¹ See *Report of 2008 Survey of Aid Allocation Policies and Indicative Forward Spending Plans* (www.oecd.org/dac/scalingup).

Furthermore, as there was increased complexity and interdependence of different policy areas, development can no longer be considered as a matter solely of development co-operation. The DAC should also aim to be more political by enhancing communications regarding its policy expertise and relevance. Overall, he stressed that the changing landscape calls for a substantial revision of the DAC mandate which was established in 1961.

28. With regard to DAC Outreach, Mr. Cravinho suggested the DAC to seek engagement of non-DAC donors with openness and humility. The objective should not be to make all non-DAC donors more like the DAC, but to use their lessons and experience by accepting that many will retain a different approach to development co-operation. Therefore, the focus should not be on arriving at common policy statements, but on identifying and promoting synergies.

29. As the second lead speaker, Mr. Jan Kohout, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic, emphasised the importance of effective partnership between DAC and the non-DAC donors based on mutual respect. While non-DAC donors still have less expertise and capacity in development co-operation, acceptance of DAC good practices will only be possible with strong mutual engagement and trust, which requires open access to and participation in policy dialogue. Mr. Kohout therefore indicated the usefulness of bringing in non-DAC donors into key areas of DAC work, such as Peer Reviews, statistics and aid effectiveness.

30. In subsequent interventions, HLM participants endorsed many of the key points made by the lead speakers, notably with regard to the importance for the DAC to project its role in the increasingly complex aid architecture. This entails active and open engagement of non-DAC donors, systematic consultation with partner countries and enhanced dialogue with NGOs in DAC work and initiatives. Furthermore, as transparency, accountability and evaluation will become more important in the future, the DAC will be required to hold members more accountable towards agreements and guidelines established collectively. Several participants mentioned that policy coherence for development will also increase in importance, both as ODA is declining relative to other flows directed to developing countries and in the light of more focus on global public goods. It was also pointed out that, as development co-operation was not an end in itself, the DAC should have a stronger focus on reducing aid dependency.

31. In his summary, the DAC Chair retained the following key points. On Outreach, the Committee should engage in an open way to identify synergies for better collective impact from development co-operation, instead of focusing on making others more like DAC Members. At the same time, non-DAC donors should be welcomed to draw on DAC experience to build their own capacity. For both these purposes, improving communication in an easily understandable, non-technical language would be important. On the Reflection Exercise, the DAC needs to recognise the increasing complexity and interdependence in the changing landscape by fully understanding the role of new players (including the private sector) and issues around global public goods. It also needs to consider how to strengthen the link with other policy areas that affect development and how to interact among members in the context of increasingly whole of government approaches. Finally, the Reflection Exercise should enable the DAC to become more transparent and accountable, as well as to build on its comparative advantage in an increasingly crowded and competitive world.

3. Climate Change, Development Co-operation and Strategic Environment Assessment

a) Key Emerging Issues at the Interface of Development Co-operation and Climate Change: Integration, Financing and Synergies [DCD/DAC(2008)20/REV1]

32. In her opening remarks, Ms. Gunilla Carlsson, Minister for International Development, Sweden, emphasised that the agenda to combat and cope with climate change is very much interlinked with the

agenda for development. She noted that, in many cases, strengthening resilience to climate change can be built on enhanced traditional development work, but that it urgently required improved co-ordination and coherence of donors' responses that are based on partner countries' own development plans and priorities. She therefore pointed to the work of Sweden's Commission on Climate Change and Development, which she chaired, that particularly focused on adaptation and disaster risk reduction by respecting the principles of the Paris Declaration in avoiding fragmentation of financing. In this connection, she also expressed strong support for the work carried out by the OECD Joint Development-Environment Task Team on Climate Change Adaptation to develop policy guidance on how to integrate climate adaptation into development co-operation.

33. As the second lead speaker, Mr. Masato Watanabe, Deputy Director General of International Cooperation, Japan, stressed the need for all countries to co-operate in order to formulate a flexible, diverse and effective post-2012 framework on climate change, which would significantly reduce the emission of greenhouse gases. This includes assisting developing countries to move towards a low-carbon society and to ensure comprehensive and balanced environmental conservation, taking into account the unique natural, social, cultural and economic context of each country or region. He informed participants that both the upcoming Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) and the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit would address issues relating to co-operation with developing countries on climate change issues. He thereby suggested that the outreach meeting of the G8 Summit would be a good opportunity to have the DAC's *Statement of Progress on Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development Co-operation* presented. Mr. Watanabe also pointed to Japan's "Cool Earth Partnership" policy, which introduces its new USD 10 billion bilateral financial mechanism to support efforts in developing countries to combat global warming.

34. In the course of the discussion, participants stated that climate change adaptation and economic development were intricately linked and that strong synergies existed between climate adaptation and mitigation, including in areas such as forest management and conservation, land management, agriculture and energy development. They highlighted the need to support, but not interfere with, ongoing climate change negotiations, particularly on linking climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Furthermore, in line with the principles of the Paris Declaration, they supported Sweden and Japan on the need for donors to assist partner countries' efforts to integrate climate change adaptation into their own policy, planning and programming systems. They encouraged the DAC Network on Environment and Development Co-operation (ENVIRONET) and the Environment Committee's Working Party on Global and Structural Policies to continue their intensive collaboration in this area, including to better define key concepts linked to climate change adaptation.

35. In summarising the discussion, the DAC Chair noted participants' strong emphasis on the links between climate change adaptation, mitigation and development, as well as the need for development co-operation to be based on partner countries' own systems, strategies and national development plans—specific attention should further be paid to LDCs and small island developing states. He also noted participants' recognition of the need to identify and tap into new and innovative sources of finance, including through the private sector, and opportunities offered by carbon markets. At the same time, while recognising the important role of ODA, especially in the short-term, he reiterated participants' concern over the creation and proliferation of new vertical funds earmarked for climate change adaptation.

36. On practical steps forward, the Chair noted participants' support to postpone the review of ODA for Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) until 2010 as well as to continue exploring options for a second Joint Environment-Development Ministerial Meeting in 2009. Furthermore, the Chair confirmed his intention to report on the results of the HLM discussion on climate change at the 2008 MCM, which was scheduled to include the topic on its agenda.

b) *Statement of Progress on Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development Co-operation [DCD/DAC(2007)60/REV4]*

37. The Chair noted participants' endorsement of the *Statement of Progress on Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development Co-operation*.

c) *Policy Statement on Strategic Environmental Assessment [DCD/DAC(2007)59/REV2]*

38. The Chair noted participants' endorsement of the *Policy Statement on Strategic Environmental Assessment*.

4. Other Business

Report and Declaration on Policy Coherence for Development: Submission to the Meeting of the Council at Ministerial Level (4-5 June 2008) [C/MIN(2008)2]

39. Following the Chair's emphasis on the importance of presenting a renewed declaration on policy coherence for development to the MCM for adoption, participants took note of the Report and Declaration.

Press Release

40. There was no objection towards the Chair issuing a press release of the HLM (see Annex 3) under his name.

Summary of meeting

41. The Chair concluded that the meeting agreed on the following: (1) continue the work on Whole-of-Government Approaches in situations of conflict and fragility; (2) continue the work on food prices with relevant policy communities within and outside OECD; (3) promote aid effectiveness and the Accra agenda; (4) make efforts towards fulfilling ODA promises; and (5) postpone the review of ODA for CDM and explore options for a second joint meeting with environment ministers back-to-back with the 2009 HLM.

ANNEX 1
LIST OF ROOM DOCUMENTS CONTRIBUTED BY DELEGATIONS

Cote	Title	Contributed by
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD1	Rising Food Prices: Implications for Development Co-operation	Trade and Agriculture Directorate
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD2	The Role of Agriculture in Promoting Pro-Poor Growth	DCD
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD3	Climate Change	Delegation of Canada
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD4	Japan's Basic Policy Regarding its Assistance Base on "Cool Earth Partnership"	Delegation of Japan
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD5	PowerPoint Presentation - Basic Policy of "Cool Earth Partnership"	Delegation of Japan
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD6	The EU – A Global Partner for Development : Speeding up Progress Towards the Millennium Development Goals	Commission of the European Communities
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD7	Danish Torch Campaign 2008	Delegation of Denmark
DCD/DAC/RD(2008)6/RD8	Statement by Japan on extending the coverage of the Untying Recommendation to include the non-LDC HIPC's	Delegation of Japan

ANNEX 2

STATEMENTS BY BELGIUM AND JAPAN ON HOW THEY WILL IMPLEMENT THE DAC AGREEMENT TO EXTEND TO NON-LDC HIPCS THE 2001 DAC RECOMMENDATION ON UNTYING ODA TO THE LDCS

Belgium agrees to extend the coverage of the DAC Recommendation on Untying ODA to the non-LDC HIPCs, with the following transition period provision. Belgium wishes to maintain an exception for two years for the tied character of its state-to-state loans and its export credit support that are provided to those eight HIPC countries that are not part of the LDC group of countries. This transition period will allow Belgium to assess the relevance and impact of its system of state-to-state loans and export credit support and to ensure the improvement of aid effectiveness, as promoted by the Paris Declaration and the work of the DAC in general.

Japan agrees to extend the coverage of the DAC Recommendation on Untying ODA to the non-LDC HIPCs with the following provisions:

- If the governments of non-LDC HIPCs request the Government of Japan to provide loans with special terms of economic partnership (STEP) for projects whose formulation processes are already in progress, Japan may provide tied ODA loans to the projects in the future.
- Japan has reiterated on several occasions that it is necessary to establish graduation criteria for HIPCs for the purpose of extending the DAC Untying Recommendation to those countries. In this regard, Japan supports the proposal from the DCD that the extended coverage will be reviewed prior to the end of the initial 5 year coverage period, and that the continuation or non-continuation of the extended coverage will be decided by each member country, which will notify the DAC Chair of its decision.
- Japan does not believe that simply extending the coverage of the untying Recommendation will automatically lead to enhanced aid effectiveness. The quality of contractors, for example, is very important for the effectiveness of aid. Untying aid should not result in the deterioration of the quality of contractors. Therefore, it is becoming increasingly important to make sure that contractors of aid projects fulfill corporate social responsibility (CSR) criteria, such as consideration for environmental and social impacts as well as providing an appropriate working environment.

ANNEX 3

PRESS RELEASE

DAC Chair Announces Agreement to Untie Aid to More Countries

At the High Level Meeting of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee in Paris, development ministers from donor countries have agreed to untie aid to Bolivia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Republic of Congo. In total, all 39 Highly Indebted Poor Countries will now receive untied aid and will be able to buy goods and services locally at the best price.

Reporting on the outcome of the High Level Meeting, the Chairman of the DAC, Mr Eckhard Deutscher, noted that untying aid is a key element in making development co-operation more effective, allowing developing countries to make their own procurement decisions on the basis of sound procurement policies and practice.

In discussions focused on the need to make aid an effective and sustainable contribution to development, ministers committed to making their future aid levels more predictable so that developing countries can plan long-term, sustainable growth.

They also committed to working with developing countries on policies to ensure food security and on measures to adapt to climate change.

A concerted effort to make aid more effective has been underway over the past few years. Ministers from donor and developing countries will evaluate the results and push joint action further when they meet at the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra, Ghana on 2-4 September.

For further information on the DAC High Level Meeting and the OECD's work on development, journalists are invited to contact Helen Fisher (e-mail: helen.fisher@oecd.org) in OECD media relations.

For more information about aid effectiveness, please visit: www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness

ANNEX 4

**PARTICIPANTS LIST - DAC HIGH LEVEL MEETING
20 - 21 MAY 2008**

Mr. Bruce DAVIS	Australia/Australie <i>Director General Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)</i>
Mr. Chris TINNING	<i>Assistant Director General Development Partnerships Branch Australian Agency for International Development</i>
Ms. Caitlin WILSON	<i>Counsellor (Development Cooperation) Permanent Delegation</i>
Ms. Hannah BIRDSEY	<i>Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)</i>
Ms. Kerri ELGAR	<i>Advisor (Development Cooperation) Permanent Delegation</i>
Mr. Anton MAIR	Austria/Autriche <i>Deputy Director-General Dept. of Development Co-operation Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs</i>
Mr. Norbert FELDHOFFER	<i>Deputy Director IV/7 - Economic Affairs and OECD Federal Chancellery</i>
Ms. Eva BELABED	<i>Attaché for Social Affairs Permanent Delegation</i>
Mr. Charles MICHEL	Belgium/Belgique <i>Ministre de la Coopération au Développement.</i>
Mr. Peter MOORS	<i>Directeur général Coopération au Développement Commerce extérieur et Coopération au Développement Service public fédéral Affaires étrangères</i>
M. Chris HOORNAERT	<i>Ambassadeur, Représentant Permanent Délégation Permanente</i>

M. Johan DEBAR *Directeur adjoint - Cellule stratégique
Cabinet du Ministre de la Coopération au
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