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DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE  
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

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## REPORT ON RECENT MEETINGS

### Room Document 1

DAC Meeting, 12 July 2011

*This Room Document is for INFORMATION under Item 7 of the Draft Annotated DAC Agenda [DCD/DAC/A(2011)10].*

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## **REPORT ON RECENT MEETINGS**

### **2011 Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics - 30 May – 1 June 2011**

1. The Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics (ABCDE) brought together around 600 participants. Speakers included leading thinkers on development such as Nobel laureate Amartya Sen, economist Esther Duflo and Mustapha Nabli, Governor of Tunisia's Central Bank. Partnering with the World Bank and French Government, the OECD was able to underline its status as a leading venue for knowledge- and policy-sharing on development. With live webcasts, blogs and discussions on social media, the conference generated widespread attention online. Videos, papers and presentations are available at [www.oecd.org/abcde2011](http://www.oecd.org/abcde2011) and [www.worldbank.org/abcde2011](http://www.worldbank.org/abcde2011).

2. The ABCDE was notable as an OECD-wide partnership: the Development Co-operation Directorate collaborated closely with colleagues in the Department for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, the Economics Directorate and the Development Centre.

### **8th Meeting of the DAC/EPOC Task Team on Governance and Capacity Development for Natural Resources and Environmental Management - 27 June 2011**

3. The Joint DAC / EPOC Task Team on Governance and Capacity Development for Environment and Natural Resource Management (CDE) meeting took place on 27 June. Participants from nine developing countries (China, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Uganda, Kenya, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Senegal), representing government and civil society, attended the meeting and shared their ongoing work on capacity development for environmental management. In the general discussion, Task Team members thanked the Secretariat for the integrated draft of the Policy Guidance. Based on comments received from Task Team members, the Secretariat will finalise the guidance and prepare an advanced version for the 4<sup>th</sup> High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan. Final publication is scheduled for the first quarter of 2012. Given that this task is almost accomplished, it was agreed that no further meetings would be scheduled for the time being. When needed, input from Task Team members will be requested through written procedure.

### **ENVIRONET Workshop on Green Growth and Development - 28 June 2011**

4. The workshop was organised by the DAC ENVIRONET, in collaboration with several other Directorates, including the Environment Directorate (ENV), Economics Department (ECO), the Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry (STI) and Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs (DAF). The workshop brought together more than 140 officials from international organisations, public and private sectors of the OECD, EE5 and other developing countries (Uganda, Kenya, Senegal, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic). The DAC Chair and the Director of ENV jointly opened the workshop. During the course of the day, the workshop set the stage for discussion on the relevance of green growth to developing countries; as well as provided the opportunity for the OECD Secretariat to identify the focus areas for future work on green growth and development.

### **12th DAC ENVIRONET Plenary Meeting - 29 June 2011**

5. The 12th ENVIRONET meeting was co-chaired by Sweden and UK, and welcomed participation of China, Indonesia and Brazil, as well as various UN agencies and regional development banks. The chair reported the outcome of the Brown Bag Lunch with the DAC delegates in March, and stressed that ENVIRONET needs to align itself to the DAC's high-level strategies. In terms of substance, delegates supported joint work on biodiversity and development with the Environmental Policy Committee. Joint POVNET-ENVIRONET task team on Green Growth and Development was proposed but members

refrained from launching a new task team in the view of foreseen restructuring of the DAC. For HLF-4 in Busan, a proposal for a side event on climate finance and development effectiveness was widely supported. Both co-chairs of the ENVIRONET will be leaving, so the Secretariat is currently seeking new chairs.

### **WP-EFF Plenary Meeting - 7-8 July 2011**

6. The seventeenth plenary meeting of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness was held on 7-8 July, under the co-presidency of Bert Koenders and Talaat Abdel-Malek. Participants were presented the final conclusions of the independent evaluation of the implementation of the Paris Declaration, which was carried out in 2010, and an outline of the first findings of the 2011 monitoring survey, carried out in 80 countries at the beginning of this year. Both sources proved a mixed view, showing that the Paris Declaration has been helpful when implemented, but that implementation has taken much longer than originally thought, and requires political pressure.

7. Using this evidence as a basis, participants analysed the first draft of the HLF-4 outcome document, confirming the topics that should be included: the “nexus” of inclusive ownership-results-accountability, aid transparency and predictability, aid fragmentation and the multilateral channels, effective institutions and the use of country systems, situations of conflict and fragility, as well as the “expanded” agenda: south-south cooperation; how aid can be linked with the private sector; aid and climate-change finance; aid for trade etc. Participants also expressed the view that the monitoring of the implementation of aid effectiveness principles should be continued in some form, focusing at the country level and being country-tailored, but including some global targets. The overall structure and tone of the first draft of the outcome document was welcomed. The second draft of the document will be circulated ahead of the next and last WP-EFF plenary, to be held during first week of October.

8. Korea updated participants on progress in preparing the logistical aspects of HLF-4. A pledging session followed, focused on raising funds to facilitate the participation of partner-country representatives (UNDP-managed fund for the WP-EFF meetings; and AsDB-managed fund for the HLF-4). However, the communication strategy for HLF-4 remains insufficiently funded.

### **Executive Committee Meeting - 9 July 2011**

9. Following the WP-EFF plenary meeting, the WP-EFF Executive Committee met on 9 July. It agreed on the notion of “building blocks” for the HLF-4, through which like-minded countries and institutions could join up in initiatives to implement the principles of the Busan Declaration. Some ideas of such possible building blocks were expressed (ownership and results, in particular), and various participants expressed their interest in presenting and/or participating in such initiatives.

### **Joint ENVIRONET/WP-EFF: Applying Lessons from Aid Effectiveness to Climate Change Finance - 6 July 2011**

10. This meeting, held as part of the series of WP-EFF related meetings, focused on applying the lessons from development experience to climate change finance modalities at the international and national level. The meeting was co-chaired by New Zealand (Roger Cornforth) and the USA (Dirk Dijkerman), and included about 65 participants. The meeting focused on how to ensure results and accountability, promote transparency, predictability and reduce fragmentation and enhance country ownership and country capacity to mainstream climate change finance in country planning and public financial management. This was viewed as particularly important in light of the fact that climate change finance may reach 100 billion a year by 2020. There was strong interest from participants in holding a side event in Busan on Climate Change Finance and Development Effectiveness. A steering group is being created to organize this event including members from AfDB, AsDB, Bangladesh, EC, Ethiopia, Mexico, OECD, South Africa, UNDP, UNFCCC, and WB.