



**CLUB DU SAHEL**

**Strategy and Policy Group**

**ANNOTATED AGENDA**

**Strategy and Policy Group (SPG) Meeting  
Washington, 15-16 June 2000**

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Washington, 15-16 June 2000<sup>1</sup>**

*Objectives*

At the last meeting of the Group held in Paris on 6 December 1999, the Dutch Presidency proposed to modify the role of the GOP to make it the steering group for the Club, especially during this transition period. Following consultations between the participants and members of the Ministerial Lobby Group (GMAP), it was concluded that the Group should provide guidance for the transformation of the Club into a real North-South forum based on a high degree of flexibility and informality.

The GOP constitutes a unique space where high level civil servants from development co-operation institutions can explore together with their African partners new ways to make international development co-operation more effective. On the basis of a set of well-targeted themes, the express intent is to support the management of development co-operation by partners in the South.

During the last meeting of the GMAP of 24 and 25 May, the African ministers present further analysed their priority topics (Sahel 21, Aid Reform, and Regional Integration). They have decided to discuss these issues with the members of the GOP. During the course of discussions, they will give their points of view and proposals for joint action. The thrust of the discussion will be how to reinforce decision-makers' commitment to implement internationally agreed actions.

*Wednesday 14 June*

**Ministerial Lobby Group meeting (GMAP, closed session with interpretation)**

9h00 — 12h00: 1<sup>st</sup> session  
12h00 — 14h00: Lunch  
14h00 — 17h00: 2<sup>nd</sup> session  
18h00: Cocktail offered by the Netherlands Presidency

*Thursday 15 June*

**Preparatory “Brainstorming” of Donor Participants and the Ministerial Lobby Group**

9h00: Registration and coffee

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1. Rescheduled from 12 June.

9h30:                    Opening of the meeting

The Presidency of the Club will summarise its experience in this role after six months. Reference will be made to the innovative role of the GMAP during this period and the brainstorming meetings with the Secretariat of the Club on its role, working methods and priority topics. The following issues will be addressed: How to promote commitment “through action” with partners on the themes agreed at the previous meeting of the GOP — local development, aid reform, support for the private sector and regional integration?

The Minister co-ordinator of the GMAP and of the CILSS will summarise the progress made by the Ministerial Lobby Group. He will refer to the exchange with President Konaré of Mali in relation to the preparation of Bamako 2000 and analyse the context in which the event will take place. The three central issues chosen by the GMAP will then be introduced briefly.

10h00 — 11h00:        Preparation for Bamako 2000: Sahel 21

The CILSS will present a proposal for a strategy integrating the conclusions and recommendations of the 24-25 May GMAP meeting. The discussion will concentrate on concrete proposals that the CILSS Secretariat could submit to the Bamako meeting, and more specifically, the aspects that directly relate to food security and the transformation of agriculture as they relate to poverty reduction and regional integration.

11h00 — 11h15:        Coffee break

11h15 — 12h15:        Preparation for Bamako 2000: Sahel 21 (followed)

12h30 — 14h00:        Lunch

14h00 — 16h00:        Preparation for Bamako 2000: Regional integration issues

A member of the GMAP will introduce the topic. The discussion will concentrate on possible options for joint action in the regional integration field. Some topics have been tentatively identified: the reform of intergovernmental organisations; synergies between the process of formal integration and “bottom-up” processes; an analysis of relevant areas of donor support to regional integration.

16h00 — 16h15:        Coffee break

16h15 — 18h15:        Preparation for Bamako 2000: Aid reform

The idea of a Code of Good Practice was launched by the GMAP at its March meeting, reinforcing the idea put forward during the last GOP. The consultant, Mr. Ibrahima Sall, former Planning Minister of Senegal, will be presenting a short note. This note concentrates on a limited number of guiding principles but then focuses on instruments and tools that could be used to manage aid in West Africa. The note seeks to promote agreement on practical progress that could be achieved. It does not seek to duplicate, but rather to supplement the work of other forums.

The Secretariat will give an overview of progress implementing its work programme in the following fields:

- Information systems on aid flows (Mali);
- An inventory of good practices (Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana);
- Building networks of practitioners and pressure groups for aid reform (North-South).

20h00: Dinner with Ministers, donors and the Club Secretariat

The main purpose of the dinner is to bring those participants involved in the SPA Plenary up to date on the results of the “brainstorming” meeting.

**Friday 16 June**  
(Room JB1-080)

9h00 — 11h00: Agreement on the agenda for Bamako 2000 Special Meeting

The Dutch Presidency and the Minister co-ordinator of the GMAP will present a summary of the discussion and formulate conclusions. The meeting should come to closure on the preparatory work and specific issues for the Bamako 2000 special meeting.

11h00 — 11h15: Coffee break

11h15 — 12h30: Agreement on the agenda for Bamako 2000 Special Meeting (followed)

The meeting should agree on the development co-operation agencies that are prepared to play a lead role on each of the three topics for Bamako 2000: Sahel 21, Regional Integration and Aid Reform. The Ministerial Lobby Group has already designated at least two coordinators for each topic.

12h30 — 14h00: Buffet lunch

Coordinators from the donor agencies and the Ministerial Lobby Group will organise thematic discussions during lunch. Club and CILSS Secretariats will facilitate and summarise conclusions.

14h00 — 15h00: Conclusions and General Information on Financing and Management

The final financial report on execution for 1999 has been sent to the Club’s shareholders. The mid-term report for 2000 will be available at this meeting. Given the changes on-going in the OECD and the Club Secretariat, we are proposing a meeting of interested shareholders in Paris for early July. For those shareholders that are not in a position to send a participant from headquarters, their DAC delegates may be able to attend.

**List of documents for this meeting available on OLIS in English and French:**

- SAH/GMAP/M(2000)2: Summary Record of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Ministerial Lobby Group (GMAP), Dakar 24-25 May 2000*
- SAH/GOP(2000)1: Sahel 21: Points for Discussion with the Development Co-operation Agencies*
- SAH/GOP(2000)2: Regional Integration — Discussion Points for the Strategy and Policy Group (SPG) Meeting*
- SAH/GOP(2000)3: Towards a Code of Good Practices in Development Aid*
- SAH(2000)1: Club du Sahel Secretariat Work Programme 1999 — Implementation Report*
- SAH(2000)2: Mid-Year Review of the 2000 Work Programme and Budget*
- SAH/GOP(2000)4: Proposed Meeting — Management and Budgetary Issues*

**Documents not available on OLIS:**

- Key Sheets: Regional Integration*
- Key Sheets: Ministerial Lobby Group*
- Key Sheets: MDP*
- Key Sheets: CILSS*
- Key Sheets: WAEN*