

Committee for Development Policy, Eleventh Session (New York, 9-13 March 2009)

Agenda

The Committee for Development Policy will hold its eleventh plenary session in New York from 9 to 13 March 2009. A main topic of the Committee's deliberations will be the theme the Council's **2009 Annual Ministerial Review**. In particular, the Committee will examine the persisting inequalities in health. The Committee understands that the presence of marked inequalities have significant implications for achieving internationally agreed goals on public health. In the lack of well targeted efforts to provide necessary health care services for worse-off, neglected and disadvantaged groups, achieving a particular *average* target will not necessarily indicate that living conditions *of all* have improved. At the international level, the Committee will examine whether and how new approaches for development cooperation embodied in the global health partnerships (GHPs)—alliances among public and private entities-- have an impact on health inequalities and will recommend ways in which GHPs and other formats of international aid can help reduce health inequalities.

The Committee will conduct the **2009 triennial review of the list of Least Developed Countries**. The objective of the review is to identify those low-income countries that would be eligible to join, and those LDCs already on the list that would be eligible to graduate from the category. The category comprises low-income developing countries which face severe structural impediments to growth as indicated by high economic vulnerability to external shocks and low level of human capital development. There are currently 49 countries identified as LDCs, including the **Maldives and Samoa** whose graduation has already been taken note of by the General Assembly.

Another item on the agenda is the relation between climate change, **sustainable development and the challenges for development finance**. The Committee will consider international funding activities in adaptation, mitigation and technology development. Among its various topics under review, the Committee will examine the prospect of a set of new financial mechanisms to broaden the scope of climate change related activities. The Committee will also consider private sector and market-based funding for mitigation actions as well as responses to the spillover effects of the trans-boundary impacts of mitigation.

In addition, the Committee will also address the **current financial turmoil and its implications for developing countries**. With the unprecedented financial turmoil and the deceleration of the world economy the Committee will analyse, among other issues, whether there is scope for countercyclical fiscal stimuli, improved access to compensatory financing and better management of international liquidity.