Statement from the NGO representatives at the ECOSOC High Level Segment: Development Cooperation Forum United Nations Headquarters June 29th to 30th 2010

The Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) has an important role to play in contributing to shaping the economic and development architecture.

Current DCF work on policy coherence should be strengthened in shaping a new development architecture grounded in human rights, including women's and workers' rights.

As regards the policy discourse on aid as a catalyst to development, it must be clear that Official Development Assistance (ODA) policies should focus on poverty eradication, sustainable development, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Internationally Agreed Development Goals (IADGs).

The multi-stakeholder nature of the DCF needs to be enhanced by continuing to bring in the voices and genuine participation of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), which include women's groups and trade unions as well as parliamentarians and local governments. The design of the DCF process should allow for greater interaction amongst stakeholders.

The participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and countries from the Global South needs to be strengthened in the DCF. We call on Member States to fully support the DCF process through increased funding, specifically for strengthening of the DCF secretariat and for full participation of countries of the Global South, and CSOs. We also urge Member States to fully engage in the process and to take seriously into consideration its outcomes.