

ECOSOC

**United Nations
Economic and Social Council**

**ECOSOC 2006- Special Event
“The Biennial Development
Cooperation Forum”**

**Monday, 3 July 2006
Geneva, Switzerland**



United Nations

ECOSOC 2006 - Special Event

Informal Ministerial Roundtable

“The Biennial Development Cooperation Forum”

Among the new functions assigned to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) by the 2005 World Summit is to convene a biennial *Development Cooperation Forum* (DCF). The DCF will review trends in international development cooperation, including strategies, policies and financing, promote greater coherence among the development activities of different development partners and strengthen the link between the normative and operational work of the United Nations.

The DCF will provide a new global platform for a wide range of development cooperation actors to engage in a dialogue on key policy issues that affect the quality and impact of aid. The Forum could play an important role in promoting greater impact of international development cooperation pursued by multilateral institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations, as well as the OECD/DAC, bilateral development agencies and South-South cooperation arrangements.

The *Informal Ministerial Roundtable* will enable ECOSOC members and other interested stakeholders to engage in a focused dialogue on the objectives of the first Development Cooperation Forum. The inter-active dialogue is expected to focus, in particular, on the following four questions: (a) what are the major challenges affecting development cooperation? (b) what innovative preparatory processes could the DCF apply to foster the participation of a wide range of stakeholders? (c) what would be the ideal outcome of the first DCF? (d) what could be the vision for development cooperation in the year 2015?

Roundtable participants

Presidency of ECOSOC – Tunisia (Chair)

Mr. Richard Manning, Chair, OECD/DAC (Moderator)

Ms. Suhair Al-Ali, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan

Ms. Yolanda Mayora de Gavidia, Minister of Economy, El Salvador

Mr. Walter Fust, Director-General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Mr. Jose Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary-General, UNDESA

Mr. Bruce Jenks, Assistant Secretary-General and Director, Bureau for Resources and Strategic Partnerships, UNDP

Ms. Annika Söder, State Secretary for Development Cooperation, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden (Lead discussant)