



3rd Information Bulletin

Dear friends of the Development Cooperation Forum

This third DCF Information Bulletin will inform you about:

- Outcome of the Retreat on ECOSOC and preparations for Review of Resolution 61/16
- Phase 3 of the DCF (2010-12)
- DCF activities in preparation of LDC-IV
- The 2nd DCF-UNDP Mutual Accountability Survey
- The 2010 DCF Report
- Other development cooperation news



Retreat on ECOSOC reform

The discussions at the retreat (held on 29-30 October, in Tarrytown) focused on global economic governance and on the review of the ECOSOC reforms launched by the 2005 World Summit (GA resolution 61/16). Participants were satisfied with the progress made so far in the implementation of resolution 61/16, which - among others - created the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF).

There was consensus that the over-arching framework for ECOSOC's work should continue to be internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. In this respect, implementation of the MDG Summit outcome should be a priority for ECOSOC.

Regarding the DCF, participants expressed satisfaction with its achievements so far. The possibility of using the DCF as a platform for mutual accountability around MDGs was raised. There were somewhat different views on the possibility of annualizing the DCF.

For a more detailed summary of the retreat, please click [here](#).

Phase 3 of the DCF (2010-12)

As 2015 draws near, an all-out effort must be made to make a step increase in development cooperation and to improve the quality and results of aid. Preparations for the 2012 DCF offer a unique multistake-

holder platform to help advance these objectives which were recognized by the 2010 UN GA high-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs. They will be guided by the DCF mandate to promote development cooperation, review trends and increase coherence and effectiveness.

While the strategic priorities to be addressed in the third phase of the DCF are being finetuned, the Forum is expected to take greater importance as a global mutual accountability platform where stakeholders assess progress towards the MDGs and commitments on development cooperation.

Looking towards LDC-IV

In preparation for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC-IV) to be held in Istanbul, Turkey in June 2011, the situation in LDCs is expected to be considered as a cross-cutting theme in the work of the DCF and its high-level symposia. A side event is planned to be organized by the DCF Advisory Group in close cooperation with OECD/DAC during the LDC IV conference on issues related to aid and aid quality in LDCs and countries in post conflict situations. A range of factors affect aid quality in such contexts, such as the lack of effective follow-up mechanisms to the Brussels Programme of Action on LDCs, weak and unbalanced mutual accountability mechanisms and incoherent policies by donors or LDCs themselves.

The 2nd DCF-UNDP Mutual Accountability Survey

Following the positive feedback on the first survey (key messages are attached), the UN was encouraged at the 2010 DCF to conduct a second survey to provide greater clarity on the impact of mutual accountability on development cooperation behaviours and on development results. Ministers in 88 countries are invited to support this process, by organizing an inclusive meeting to complete the DCF survey back-to-back with national events under way to complete the 2011 Paris Declaration Monitoring Survey. The results will provide critical information to develop key messages on mutual accountability for the 2012 DCF and, before this, for the fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan. Regional workshops have been organized to help [national coordinators](#) and [UN Country Teams](#) to effectively engage in the reporting. The DCF survey has been introduced in all meetings as a critical tool to garner feedback on mutual accountability. Questionnaire and explanatory note for the second survey will be made available on the DCF website shortly.

The Report of the 2010 DCF

In addition to the official summary of the 2010 DCF by the President of ECOSOC, an official report of the 2010 DCF will be issued on the DCF website early next year. It will summarize the consultative process leading to the second Forum in June 2010, provides highlights from the Report of the Secretary-General, and outlines key messages from the opening session and the five high-level policy dialogues. It also points to key messages of the 11 side events held during the 2010 DCF.

In other development cooperation news

- Director Nikhil Seth participated in the Global South-South Development Expo in Geneva (more information on the workshop [here](#)) and in a [workshop on the evolving global aid architecture](#) in Seoul (Mr. Seth's statement is in the zip-file with presentations).
- The [European Development Days](#) were held in Brussels on 6 and 7 December. The UN Secretary-General made [a statement](#). The [EU Green Paper on development policy](#) was launched immediately prior to this event.
- UNDESA currently conducts a survey among LDCs on the international support measures related to ODA as part of a [project to build capacity for graduation strategies for LDCs](#).
- The Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness adopted principles referred to as the [Istanbul Principles](#) as a foundation for CSO Development Effectiveness.
- The Center for Global Development issued the [Commitment to Development Index 2010](#) rating providers on how much they are helping poor countries via aid, trade, investment, migration, environment, security, and technology. Together with the Brookings Institute, it published the first [Quality of Official Development Assistance \(QuODA\) report](#) assessing aid quality based on efficient aid delivery, fostering institutions, reducing burden on recipients and maximizing transparency and learning.
- Publish What You Fund (PWYF) has developed a [global aid transparency assessment](#) of 30 major bilateral and multilateral donors.
- The [Open Budget Survey 2010](#) finds that 74 of the 94 countries assessed fail to meet basic standards of transparency and accountability when it comes to their national budgets

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We would like to keep you regularly informed about DCF events. Our website is: www.un.org/ecosoc/DCF.

For any communication related issues, please contact Paul Simon (simonp@un.org). Please inform Paul, in case you do not want to receive DCF updates.

Happy holidays!
The DCF Secretariat