



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
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4 April 2008

System-wide Coherence

Excellency,

As foreseen in our preliminary programme of work and in response to priorities repeatedly expressed by a large number of member States, we are arranging for open consultations on the overarching issue of Funding to take place on this coming Monday, 7 April. The announcement has already appeared in the UN Journal.

Delegations will have seen our joint comments on the Funding aspect in the Co-Chairs' statement at the conclusion of the previous consultations held on 28 March. A copy of these is attached for ease of reference.

In addition, delegations will have seen the report of our predecessors, the Permanent Representatives of Barbados and Luxembourg, as distributed by the President of the General Assembly, on 17 September last. That report includes an indicative or non-prescriptive list of issues which our predecessors, as Co-Chairs, felt it might be worthwhile addressing in regard to Funding. This too is attached.

We would kindly request that each member State, in its intervention on 7 April, give evidence of an effort to reach out to those States which do not necessarily share its own view of this important aspect.

We would recall that the General Assembly's Resolution (62/208) of 18 December last, on the Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review (TCPR), reflects a recently achieved consensus on the Funding issue, both as regards the 'Delivering as One' process at country level and more generally. We hope very much that during the current exercise States will fully acknowledge this far-reaching TCPR consensus and indeed endeavour to implement and build upon it.



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In line with priorities previously expressed by member States we are undertaking these consultations, as part of our ongoing efforts to look towards modalities for an agreement on how to implement greater coherence in the UN system and thereby enhance efforts towards the more effective delivery of development assistance.

The Co-Chairs would also hope to have a representative from the UN System present to answer any questions member States may have in relation to aspects of funding in System-wide Coherence pertaining to the 'Delivering as One' process which has previously been discussed.

In relation to future consultations, the Co-Chairs have, as delegations will be aware, scheduled focused consultations on Governance for 17 April. We will also hope to organise discussions on Gender and a briefing by the Secretary-General on progress in relation to Harmonisation of Business Practices.

We look forward to an informative and fruitful discussion on 7 April.

Yours sincerely,

Ambassador Augustine Mahiga
Permanent Representative of the United
Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations

Ambassador Paul Kavanagh
Permanent Representative of
Ireland to the United Nations

**Informal Consultations on System-wide Coherence
in the United Nations General Assembly
Friday, 28 March, 2008-03-28**

**Closing Remarks of the Co-chairs
delivered by H.E. Ambassador Paul Kavanagh of Ireland**

Extract

Our next open consultation will concern the over-arching issue of *Funding* and will take place on 7 April. We have repeatedly heard – most recently today from those developing countries which are leading the way in promoting a more coherent, efficient and effective United Nations System – about the need for adequacy, predictability and timeliness of funding. We will be particularly attentive to the positions of the development partners in this regard on 7 April. Then, on 17 April, we will turn to the over-arching issue of *Governance*.

Report of the Co-Chairs to the President of the 61st Session of the General Assembly on the Consultations on System-wide Coherence

Ambassador Christopher F. Hackett, Permanent Representative of Barbados and Ambassador Jean-Marc Hoscheit, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg

Extract on Funding:

‘On the issues of funding the following questions have been identified during the consultations, as of central importance:

- the issue of the quality, quantity and predictability of funding;
- the issue of a better balance to be achieved between non-core and core funding;
- the reinvestment of reform savings back into the system, notably at country level;
- the review of funding mechanisms and practices, including the alignment of budget cycles and the establishment of one budgetary framework in the pilots;
- the issue of resource mobilization, and
- the funding of a strengthened RC system.’