

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Expert Group Meeting on the role of country groupings for development New York, 25 November 2013

Chair: José Antonio Alonso

Monday, 25 November, 2013

9:30 - 10:00: Welcome, Adoption of the agenda, Organization of the work

Ana Luiza Cortez, CDP Secretary

Background documentation:

- Concept note [CDP2013/EGM3/2]

10:00 -13:00: Country groupings in international development support: status-quo and issues of concern

Introduction by José Antonio Alonso

[This session will review the current international landscape of country groupings in international development support. The main focus will be on groups recognized and defined by the United Nations, i.e. least developed countries (LDCs), land-locked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS). A secondary focus will be placed on operational and analytical groups used by the Bretton Woods Institutes and a number of developed countries. The session will then discuss a series of issues concern about the current system, including:

- Group-based support creates incentive problems, as graduation from a group implies an abrupt loss in benefits whereas developmental progress is continuous.
- Political influence on development support prevent or significant delay adjustments to group compositions over time.

- Heterogeneous groups make group-based support ineffective.
- Close similarities between certain group members and outsiders make group-based support unfair.
- The multitude of overlapping country groups reduces transparency of the international development support system and leads to inefficiencies.

Background documentation:

- Heterogeneity and country groupings in the international landscape (Chapter 10 of the upcoming CDP Book, by Jose Antonio Alonso, Stephan Klasen and Ana Cortez) [CDP2013/EGM2/2]
- Country views on graduation cases (Note by Hiroshi Kawamura) [CDP2013/EGM2//3]
- On the likelihood of 24 LDCs graduating by 2020: An unfinished dream (Paper by Hiroshi Kawamura) [CDP2013/EGM2/4]
- Country groupings in international development support (Paper by Matthias Bruckner) [CDP2013/EGM/5]

13:00-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-16:15: Country groupings in international development support: the way forward

Introduction by Stephan Klasen

[This session will discuss various ways forward that could enhance the present system of group-based international support. Options to be discussed include the creation of sub-groups within existing groups, with the aim to reduce within-group heterogeneity as well as the differentiation of support for group members according to vulnerabilities or other measures of support needs. Other options to be discussed could target the incentive problem for graduation, going beyond the current system of deferred or gradual withdrawal of benefits. Harmonizing support groups across providers could also be considered.]

Background documentation:

- Heterogeneity and country groupings in the international landscape (Chapter 10 of the upcoming CDP Book, by Jose Antonio Alonso, Ana Cortez and Stephan Klasen)) [CDP2013/EGM2/2]

16:15:16:30: Coffee/tea break

16:30-17:45: Reporting to the CDP plenary: structure of the report, preliminary messages

Introduction by José Antonio Alonso

17:45. Closing of the meeting: moving forward, timeline

Ana Luiza Cortez