Thursday 5 July, 2012

Opening
Location: ECOSOC Chamber North Lawn Building (NLB)

Official welcome  10:00 – 10:30
- H.E. Miloš Koterec, President of the Economic and Social Council
- Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations

1. Drivers of change: What is the future of development cooperation?
Location: ECOSOC Chamber NLB

Presentation of the Secretary-General’s report to the 2012 DCF  10:30 – 10:40
- Sha Zukang, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General of the Rio+20 Conference, United Nations

Keynote addresses  10:40 – 11:30
- H.E. Senator Bob Carr, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Australia
- H.E. Marie-Josée Jacobs, Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, Luxembourg
- H.E. Nhlanhla Nene, Deputy Minister of Finance, South Africa
- H.E. Li Baodong, Permanent Representative of the People’s Republic of China to the United Nations
- Michelle Bachelet, Executive Director, UN WOMEN

Interactive debate  11:30 – 13:00
Moderator: Joanna Kerr, Chief Executive, ActionAid International
Panellists: H.E. Heikki Holmås, Minister of International Development, Norway
          Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

The currents of change are transforming our human and physical geography. Demographic transformation; the emergence of new centers of economic dynamism; accelerating inequality within and across nations; challenges to the existing social contract by a disillusioned, mobilized citizenry; technological and organizational transformation linking people directly as never before; and climate change - are all placing the foundations of our world and our global system under unprecedented stress. They are driving not just incremental but exponential change. They are deeply interconnected and increasingly complex.

The Secretary-General’s Five-Year Action Agenda, 25 January 2012

The development landscape is changing, and so too should development cooperation. Four features are
particularly relevant for the future role of international development cooperation: firstly, the emergence of new centres of economic dynamism; secondly, the intensification of global challenges calling for scaling-up as well as leveraging of development cooperation around common goals and agreed actions; thirdly, the transforming relationship among states, markets and individuals and its implications for the delivery of development cooperation; and, fourthly, the rapid growth of new institutional actors which has strengthened the ranks of development partners.

The keynote speakers and participants will discuss the implications of these and other related changes in the global development landscape for the role of international development cooperation in the future, particularly in the context of the Rio+20 outcome and the ongoing work on the post-2015 development agenda.

Possible discussion questions:
1. What are the challenges for development cooperation arising from the continuing global economic, financial and social crises?
2. What measures need to be taken to ensure that development cooperation accelerates the progress towards the MDGs and provides long-term development results?
3. What are the implications of the ongoing diversification of sources and channels of development financing for the future of global development cooperation?
4. What other factors are likely to affect the future of global development cooperation?

2. Where should development cooperation go and how can it unlock other resources?

These two parallel sessions will build on the findings and key messages of the high-level symposia held in Mali (June 2011) and Luxembourg (November 2011) in preparation for the 2012 DCF.

Developing countries face diverging needs and priorities. To what extent do development providers respond to these differences? Are these differences in allocation of development cooperation justified, and if not, what would an improved system look like? Also, is allocation of development cooperation strategic and channelled to sectors that are critical for job creation and sustainable growth in developing countries? Furthermore, how can development cooperation serve as a catalyst for other sources of development financing in developing countries?

Policy Dialogue (A) 15:00 – 16:45  
Location: ECOSOC Chamber NLB

Can development cooperation be made more equitable, efficient and strategic?  
Moderator: Helen Clark, Administrator of UNDP and Chair, United Nations Development Group  
Panellists: Somchith Inthamith, Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment, Lao PDR
Jon Lomøy, Director, Development Cooperation Directorate, OECD/DAC
Lydia Alpízar Durán, Executive Director, Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID)
This session will focus on how to make the allocation of development cooperation to three country groupings, i.e. low-income, middle-income and crisis and transition countries, more equitable, efficient and strategic.

The role and nature of development cooperation is changing. In 1990, 95 per cent of the poorest in the world lived in low-income countries. Today, 25 and 75 per cent of the world’s poorest live in 35 low- and 109 middle-income countries (MICs) respectively, with the absolute number of poor people heavily concentrated in a small number of MICs. A fifth of humanity lives in countries experiencing violence, political conflict, insecurity and societal vulnerability. Conflict-affected countries are home to 60 per cent of the undernourished, 61 per cent of the poor, 77 per cent of children not attending primary school, 65 per cent of people without access to safe water, and 70 per cent of infant deaths. The global challenges of security and poverty are increasingly concentrated in conflict-affected states, and few will meet a single MDG by the year 2015.

Participants will discuss how the differing nature of development priorities in these country groupings should affect the allocation of development cooperation. Within each of these country groupings an additional question arises, that of striking the right balance between short-term quick impact interventions and longer-term sustainable results. Participants will reflect on how development cooperation providers support critical social sectors and infrastructure development, while enhancing productive capacity and the creation of an enabling environment for innovation and technology diffusion.

Possible discussion questions:

1. How should the international community endeavour to address poverty, wherever it occurs?
2. To what extent do the modalities of development cooperation channelled to low-income and crisis and transition countries differ relative to middle-income countries?
3. How can we ensure that development cooperation providers strike the right balance between short- and long-term priorities?
4. What are the good country practices, drawn from key strategies and ongoing initiatives, to accelerate progress in sectors with the greatest need?

Policy Dialogue (B) 15:00 – 16:45
Location: Conference Room 6 NLB

How can development cooperation serve as a catalyst for other sources of development financing?

Moderator: Pitchette Kampeta Sayinzoga, Permanent Secretary and Secretary to the Treasury, Rwanda
Panellists: Anne Sipiläinen, Under-Secretary of State, Development Policy and Development Cooperation, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland
Min Zhu, Deputy Managing Director, IMF
Jesse Griffiths, Director, EURODAD

The ultimate aim of development cooperation is to facilitate a transformation in institutions and systems in developing countries so that over time, assistance is not needed.
Generally, as developing countries move up the development trajectory to middle- and higher-income status, their access to other sources of financing increases proportionally. At a time of long-term decline in the share of official development assistance (ODA) of total resource flows to developing countries, an important challenge is to use development cooperation to leverage other sources of development financing in order to meet national development objectives.

The Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration stressed the importance of mobilizing domestic resources, increasing foreign direct investment and promoting international trade as an engine for development. In this context, ODA is seen as means of leveraging other flows to ward off aid dependency and catalyze a more holistic approach to development.

**Possible discussion questions:**

1. How can development cooperation contribute to strengthening of national capacities for domestic resource mobilization and increased private flows?
2. What are the synergies between access to finance and poverty reduction in developing countries, and what is the role of development cooperation?
3. What are the challenges in harnessing different sources of private flows in development?
4. How can development cooperation promote incentives to accelerate the transformation of institutions and systems in developing countries?

**3. Making accountability operational: practice and perspectives**

*Location: ECOSOC Chamber NLB*

**Introductory remarks 17:00 – 17:15**

- Martin Dahinden, Director General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland
- Sha Zukang, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General of the Rio+20 Conference, United Nations

Mutual accountability plays a reinforcing role in enhancing the effectiveness of the development cooperation partnership between recipient and donor countries. Although political leaders regularly promise the transparent delivery and use of aid, in practice, many commitments remain unfulfilled. Against this backdrop, countries heavily dependent on aid are often at a disadvantage in holding donor countries to account on aid issues. Compacts and agreements usually spell out a long list of targets for recipient countries, but, in some cases, are less stringent on donor countries, while civil society and parliamentarians are generally excluded from the oversight and decision-making process. Addressing power imbalances between recipient and donor countries in development cooperation is an important prerequisite for more effective, trust-based partnerships.

Introductory remarks will focus on why accountability and aid transparency matter in development cooperation, followed by a special presentation of the findings of the *Second Survey on Mutual Accountability* conducted by UNDESA in partnership with UNDP in preparation for the 2012 DCF.
Interactive debate

Strengthening capacity and political buy-in for mutual accountability

Moderator: Sigrid Kaag, Assistant Secretary-General, Bureau for External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP

Panellists: H.E. Oburu Oginga, Assistant Minister for Finance, Kenya
Gisela Hammerschmidt, Deputy Director-General, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
H.E. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Member of Parliament, Bangladesh
Meja Vitalice, Development Policy Analyst, Reality of Aid Africa

Analysis conducted by DESA in preparation for the 2012 DCF has identified a number of steps for improving mutual accountability in developing countries, including the adoption of national development cooperation policies and setting annual targets for individual providing countries and high-level meetings to discuss progress. The DESA analysis has also identified several factors to produce behavioural change in the recipient-donor country relationship such as high-level political leadership and commitment, clear institutional structures for the implementation of the development cooperation partnership, availability of data and analysis, peer pressure on providing countries and capacity building. The DESA analysis also shows that there has been limited progress so far in developing robust mutual accountability mechanisms in most developing countries.

High-level political buy-in, commitment and leadership are thus critical for a balanced donor-recipient country relationship that can drive the process of reform at the technical level. The early involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations and parliamentarians, is particularly important in this regard. Participants will be invited to deliberate on the key capacity development measures needed – especially by programme country governments and non-executive stakeholders – to increase the ability to effectively hold partners to account. They will also reflect on the major constraints that are thwarting the efforts of political leaders to make the accountability agenda a priority.

The interactive debate will also try to address what is needed to ensure that mutual accountability remains high on the political agenda, especially in the context of the emerging sustainable development agenda and the growing variety of sources, types and modalities of development cooperation.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What institutional and human capacity-development measures are needed to increase the effectiveness of national-level mutual accountability in development cooperation?
2. What are good country examples of effective political leadership to promote inclusiveness of mutual accountability mechanisms at national level?
3. What can be done to increase individual providers’ accountability to recipient countries as well their own domestic stakeholders?
4. What measures are needed to further strengthen mutual accountability at the global level, and its interaction with accountability at the national level? How can the DCF further contribute to fostering this nexus?
Thematic and regional workshops

18:00 – 19:00

(The Parallel)

The regional workshops are an occasion to further examine opportunities and challenges in strengthening mutual accountability mechanisms and tools in developing countries.

Workshop (A)

Location: ECOSOC Chamber NLB (English only)

Post-conflict countries and countries in vulnerable situations

Moderator: Peter Moors, Director-General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Belgium

Panellists: H.E. Abdou Karim Meckassoua, Minister of Planning and Economy, Central African Republic
           Elisabetta Belloni, Director General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy
           Maureen Quinn, Senior Advisor, International Peace Institute
           Yoka Brandt, Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF
           Conrad Sauvé, Secretary-General and CEO, Canadian Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Mutual accountability is particularly important in crisis and transition countries due to the twin challenge of the need to accelerate the realization of the MDGs and the demand for effective delivery and use of development cooperation flows. Yet, progress in enhancing mutual accountability in crisis and transition countries has been much slower and less inclusive of national stakeholders than in other developing countries. Institutional and human resources capacity constraints are particularly pronounced in these country situations. Recommendations of LDC-IV and the New Deal for Fragile States could help improve this picture, if implemented rapidly and in an innovative and inclusive fashion.

This workshop will explore the extent to which mutual accountability mechanisms in crisis and transition countries differ from those used in other developing countries and how they can be enhanced. Participants will also assess the extent to which “transition compacts” and other home-grown mechanisms help to strengthen coordination, reduce fragmentation, improve risk management, and facilitate earlier and more flexible release of development funding in crisis and transition countries. Participants will also be invited to discuss how national mutual accountability mechanisms can promote coherence and coordination between the development, humanitarian assistance and other actors in such country situations.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What are specific risks and concerns of providers, and other factors which have led to much slower progress on mutual accountability in crisis and transition countries?

2. What innovative measures can be taken to enhance mutual accountability in these circumstances, to accelerate the transition out of vulnerable situations?

3. What are particular challenges in making mutual accountability more inclusive in crisis and transition countries and what measures can be taken to overcome them?
UN analysis suggests that Africa has made considerable progress in enhancing mutual accountability and transparency in development cooperation in recent years. However, this progress remains uneven, with virtually no progress in some African countries, while others face reluctance by providers to be held accountable through an effective monitoring regime. Similarly, some country budgets and aid information systems do not facilitate accountability and transparency of development cooperation due to poor reporting by providers or inadequate consultation and dissemination by governments.

A series of regional meetings and workshops, co-organized by African governments and the UN, have discussed progress and challenges in implementing mutual accountability at the country level. African countries have agreed that more efforts should be invested in peer learning and exchange of lessons learned on how to make mutual accountability a reality on the ground. There is a growing sentiment among policy-makers that African mutual accountability standards should be developed.

This regional workshop will examine how mutual accountability and transparency could be further accelerated in the African context. It may consider what could be the elements of common mutual accountability standards in development cooperation to promote country ownership and leadership, strengthen capacity development and knowledge exchange. A key issue is also that of the incentives for recipient and donor countries to engage in such a process, raising the question of the support that could be provided by the DCF.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What are the positive lessons that can be learned from country and regional mutual accountability initiatives as well as accountability work at the community level?
2. What have been the barriers to extending mutual accountability to more countries? How can these barriers be overcome?
3. What are the constraints to deepening existing mutual accountability arrangements at the country level and how can these be overcome?
4. What are the barriers to strengthening accountability and transparency of development cooperation to domestic stakeholders at the country level?
Workshop (C) 18:00 – 19:00
Location: Conference Room 5 NLB (English only)

Strengthening development cooperation in the Pacific: what can regional compacts contribute?

Moderator: Feleti Teo, Deputy Secretary-General, Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
Panellists: Amanda Ellis, Deputy Secretary International Development, Head of the New Zealand Aid Programme, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand
Noumea Simi, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Finance, Samoa
Emele Duituturaga, Executive Director, Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, PIANGO

Regional mutual accountability mechanisms are less prevalent than global ones. These regional mechanisms are located mostly in Africa, but virtually absent in Latin America and most of Asia, with the exception of the Pacific Islands. The work of these regional mechanisms is often ignored in global and national discussions on mutual accountability.

The Pacific Islands have made an important step forward on regional mutual accountability through a regional compact between Pacific Islands and multiple providers, and an annual report and discussion of progress. Regional mutual accountability has the advantage of allowing participants to learn from best practices in different countries, and of reducing monitoring and reporting burdens. However, the Pacific Islands Compact does not set or monitor targets for individual providers, and relies on self-reporting of progress by providers.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the mutual accountability arrangement established by the Pacific Islands Forum?
2. How can regional and national mutual accountability mechanisms complement each other in terms of maximizing accountability and minimizing bureaucracy?
3. Is there a risk of regional processes undermining national mechanisms, especially in settings where countries have limited institutional and human resources capacities?
4. How inclusive are the regional and national forums?
Friday 6 July, 2012

4. Lessons learned from South-South and triangular cooperation
Location: ECOSOC Chamber NLB

Interactive debate  
Good practices and lessons learned in South-South and triangular cooperation.

Moderator: Deborah Brautigam, Professor, and Director of the International Development Programme, Johns Hopkins University, SAIS, Washington, D.C.

(i) What can we learn from South-South cooperation?
Panellists:  
H. E. Ahmed Shide, State Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Ethiopia
H.E. Nguyen The Phuong, Vice Minister of Planning and Investment, Viet Nam
H.E. Miles Sampa, Deputy Minister for Finance and National Planning, Zambia
Petko Draganov, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD
H.E. Birama Sidibe, Vice President (Operations), Islamic Development Bank

South-South cooperation is considered by many developing countries as cost-effective due to the lighter procedural requirements, lower transaction costs and faster delivery of development cooperation. According to background studies prepared for the 2012 DCF, South-South infrastructure support is felt to be cost-effective, predictable and well-designed, with South-South cooperation in agriculture also demonstrating its potential to boost smallholder production and food security. Triangular cooperation also continues to have major advantages, especially in the area of capacity development.

This session will invite participants to reflect on the comparative advantages of South-South and triangular cooperation, and the prerequisites for developing countries to fully benefit from their engagement with Southern contributors while addressing longer-term sustainability concerns. Participants will also be invited to explore the potential for South-South cooperation to support economic diversification and productive capacity development in developing countries.

(ii) Institutions for South-South development cooperation: emerging trends
Panellists:  
Serdar Çam, President, Turkish International Development and Cooperation Agency
Masato Watanabe, Vice President, Japan International Cooperation Agency
Martín Rivero, Executive Director of the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation

The focus of this interactive debate is the manner in which Southern contributors are shaping institutions for development cooperation. South-South cooperation generally involves a number of stakeholders such as finance, planning, foreign and line ministries, together with export import banks and development funds. To address concerns of coordination and effectiveness, several major South-South cooperation contributors have, or are considering, the establishment of, a development agency, but the implications of this decision on the evolving development cooperation partnership with developing countries remain unclear.
Participants will be invited to interact with representatives of several development agencies on the impact that the new institutional arrangements are likely to have on the quantity and quality of South-South cooperation in the future.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What are good country examples of South-South cooperation for the realization of the MDGs and the sustainable development agenda?
2. How do partner countries ensure that South-South cooperation is cost-effective, efficient and mutually beneficial?
3. In what way is South-South cooperation contributing the skills and technology that are necessary for productive capacity development?
4. What are good examples of recipient country leadership and coordination of South-South cooperation?
5. To what extent are the new institutional arrangements more conducive to improving the quality of development cooperation in terms of coordination, alignment with country priorities and speed of delivery?

5. Global development cooperation: the evolving role of private philanthropic organisations and decentralised cooperation

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This session will have a discussion on how development cooperation can leverage private flows and philanthropy for the realization of national and global development objectives. It will also examine good country practices and institutional arrangements for decentralised cooperation through local government partnerships.

Roundtable (A)
Location: ECOSOC Chamber NLB

Private philanthropic organizations

Moderator: Ron Bruder, Founder and Chairman of the Board, Education for Employment (EFE), New York
Panellists: Iqbal Noor Ali, Senior Advisor, Aga Khan Development Network
Heather Grady, Vice President Foundations Initiatives, Rockefeller Foundation
Klaus Leisinger, President and Managing Director, Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development

The sheer size of the financing gap for the sustainable development and poverty eradication agenda require the continued engagement of a broad range of development partners in global development cooperation, including the private sector. This roundtable discussion on private philanthropic organisations will focus on two key issues that are at the heart of development cooperation: firstly, the challenges and opportunities in engaging foundations in global development cooperation, drawing on their comparative strengths such as the potential for greater innovation, risk-taking and direct targeting, and, secondly, explore concrete steps that could be taken at the global level, including under the aegis of the DCF, to help
maximize the role and impact of private philanthropic organizations in achieving sustainable development results in developing countries. Participants will also be invited to exchange their views about current initiatives designed to promote transparency and accountability of private philanthropic organizations, echoing earlier discussions in the Forum on the quality of development cooperation.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What are good practices in private philanthropy in achieving cost-effective development results in developing countries?
2. How do private philanthropic organizations address country development priorities?
3. How can more information and analysis be generated on good practices in philanthropy in developing countries?
4. How can private philanthropic organizations be more involved in development cooperation discussions at the global level?

Roundtable (B) 12:00 – 13:00
Location: Conference Room 6 NLB

Decentralised development cooperation

Moderator: Monica Paez, Technical Coordinator of the Technical Secretariat for International Cooperation (SETECI), Government of Ecuador
Panellists: Carles Llorens Vila, Director-General for International Cooperation, Government of Catalonia, Spain, and representative of FOGAR
Jürgen Nimptsch, Lord Mayor of Bonn
Anthony Egir Aikins, Mayor of Cape Coast, Ghana
Patricia Ayala, Intendente of the Uruguayan Department of Artigas, Uruguay
Cll. Berry Vrbanovich, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Co-Chair of the Decentralised Cooperation Committee of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

Local governments and municipalities are increasingly engaged in development cooperation in developing countries, spurred by urbanization and decentralization trends. However, information and data on the value and impact of decentralised development cooperation in developing countries are largely lacking. This roundtable will initiate a dialogue on the parameters and modalities of decentralised cooperation in order to gain a better understanding of good practices that could be replicated in certain country settings. Particular attention will be devoted to the transfer of resources and technical capacity in the context of South-South decentralized cooperation, and the impact of decentralized cooperation on the promotion of stronger, more participative national institutions.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What are the comparative strengths of decentralized cooperation in achieving development objectives and results?
2. How can more information and analysis be generated on good practices in decentralized cooperation in developing countries?
3. How can decentralized cooperation actors be more involved in development cooperation discussions at the global level?
6. Gearing global development cooperation towards sustainable development – where do we go from Rio+20?

Location: Conference Room 2 NLB

Open forum 15:00 – 16:30

Moderated by:
H.E. Luis Alfonso de Alba, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations in New York

With the participation of:

- Sha Zukang, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General of the Rio+20 Conference, United Nations
- Jean-Baptiste Mattei, Director General of Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France
- Roberto Bissio, Coordinator, Social Watch
- Juan Somavia, Director General, International Labour Organization

The sustainable development paradigm, with its three pillars of economic growth, social equity and environmental protection, has established itself as a reference framework for all stakeholders engaged in international development cooperation. The sustainable development concept calls for a development path that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The transition towards sustainable development has wide ranging implications for the way in which development cooperation is pursued, but these implications are not always fully understood, let alone translated into systematic policies, actions and institutional structures.

This session will examine the practical implications of putting sustainability at the heart of global development cooperation in the future.

Possible discussion questions:

1. What are the key Rio+20 outcomes, and components of the sustainable development agenda, which will impact upon international development cooperation?
2. How will global development cooperation need to be redesigned in order to better support the realization of the sustainable development agenda?
3. How is the sustainable development agenda likely to impact the allocation of development cooperation between countries and sectors?
4. What new accountability processes and indicators will be needed to measure progress in realizing the sustainable development agenda?
5. How can development providers enhance implementation of existing sustainable development strategies?
7. Forging ahead: partnering for the future of development
Location: Conference Room 2 NLB

Interactive debate
16:30 – 17:45

Moderator: Bruce Jones, Director, Centre on International Cooperation, New York University
Panellists: H.E. Kim Bong-hyun, Deputy Minister of Multilateral and Global Affairs, Republic of Korea
Rogelio Granguillhome, Executive Director of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation
Katsuji Imata, Acting Secretary-General, CIVICUS
Talaat Abdel Malek, Co-Chair, OECD/DAC Working Party on Aid Effectiveness and Economic Adviser to the Minister of International Co-operation, Egypt

This session will focus the attention of participants on the evolving role of the DCF in the changing development cooperation architecture.

Possible discussion questions:
1. What are the implications of recent global trends for institutional arrangements in international development cooperation?
2. How can the different development cooperation actors be encouraged to work closer together in support of a pro-poor sustainable development agenda?
3. In this context, what could be the key deliverables of the DCF during the 2012-2014 phase?

Closing
Location: Conference Room 2 NLB

Concluding remarks and summary statement
17:45 – 18:00

- Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations
- Sha Zukang, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General of the Rio+20 Conference, United Nations
- H.E. Mr. Miloš Koterec, President of the Economic and Social Council