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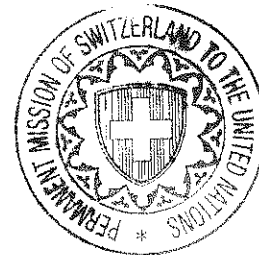
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The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Financing for Development Office at the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and has the honor to refer to the request of 14 January 2013 (reference: DESA/13-00059) inviting Member States to convey their views on global economic governance and development to the Secretary-General to be taken into consideration in the elaboration of his report on this subject matter as per the mandate of the General Assembly resolution 66/256 of 16 March 2012, entitled "The United Nations in global governance".

Switzerland is delighted to herewith submit a contribution on global economic governance to the attention of the Secretary-General and trusts that these considerations may provide useful inputs to the analysis and formulation of recommendations by the Secretary-General in his report on global economic governance and development.

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Financing for Development Office at the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 21 February 2013



Department of Economic and
Social Affairs
Financing for Development Office

New York



22 February 2013

Switzerland's contribution regarding the upcoming report of the Secretary-General on global economic governance and development

Global Economic Governance:

Towards more transparent interaction between the G20 and the wider UN membership

The failure of the UN to respond adequately and rapidly to the world economic crisis and the emergence of the G20 has led to numerous initiatives aiming to improve the UN in terms of, for example, management at Secretariat level, system-wide coherence, relations with global and regional organizations and outreach to global constituencies.

There are also many ways to build bridges between the UN system and the G20, some of which were proposed by the 3G (Global Governance Group) in a letter (A/64/706) to the Secretary-General. These proposals include:

- a. Consultations between the G20 and the wider UN membership through more predictable and regular channels before and after G20 Summits;
- b. Formalization of the participation of the Secretary-General and his Sherpa at G20 Summits;
- c. A "variable geometry" as a possible means to enhance the inclusiveness and transparency of the work of the G20.

Switzerland acknowledges with appreciation that the Cameron report endorses this approach and recommends becoming more consistent and effective in engaging non-members, international institutions and other actors in specific areas of the G20 process.

The informal meetings in the General Assembly before and after the G20 Summit provide excellent models of how institutional links and dialogue between the G20 and the UN can be strengthened. These meetings should be maintained and institutionalized.

Furthermore, the rise of the G20, along with the increasingly important role of international organizations within and outside the UN system in carrying out mandates and studies on behalf of the G20 for the preparations of G20 Summits has become a challenge to existing legitimate governance arrangements. Given the large agenda of the G20, it is likely that the working relationships between the G20 and international organizations will increase in quantity and intensify in scope. There is a risk that a governance structure of an informal nature is being created, with the G20 shaping the priorities and defining mandates of the international organizations in an unprecedented way.

In an effort to make interaction between the G20 and international organizations more transparent, and to strengthen the formal governance arrangements already in place, the following recommendations aim to contribute to promoting transparency about the actions taken by the G20 and strengthening the governance of the international organizations concerned:

- a. After every G20 Summit, the G20 should publish all prospective mandates to be carried out by international organizations and include information on the nature and scope of the mandate, its objectives, resources and timeframe. These mandates should be in line with the strategic objectives of the international organizations concerned;
- b. Governing bodies of international organizations should receive regular briefings by their secretariats on the implementation status of G20 mandates;
- c. Studies carried out by international organizations on behalf of the G20 should be submitted to all their Member States. If appropriate, findings should be discussed with Member States in a timely manner;
- d. Secretariats of international organizations should fully disclose the budgetary implications of G20 mandates to their governing bodies. The G20 should ensure that the necessary funding is provided for the accomplishment of these mandates and that cross-subsidization from core resources is avoided. If there is a funding shortfall, the governing bodies should decide on the next steps;
- e. Decisions relating to the governance, strategies, management and financing of international organizations should be made in the governing bodies of the international organizations concerned.