

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

ECOSOC DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FORUM (DCF) SIDE EVENT: MULTI-STAKEHOLDER SOLUTIONS FOR A POST-2015 WORLD MESSAGES FROM THE MEXICO CITY HIGH LEVEL MEETING

SUMMARY

Background

1. More than 1500 development leaders from over 150 countries participated in the first High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) in Mexico City on 15-16 April, 2014. The meeting reviewed progress in meeting commitments on effective development co-operation and facilitated plenary discussions on areas of co-operation that can boost results in developing countries, including effective development co-operation in middle-income countries, domestic resource mobilization, South-South and triangular co-operation and knowledge-sharing, and partnering with business in development. The meeting also included 36 “focus sessions”, which brought together a variety of stakeholders to share knowledge and experience about a number of in-depth related topics.

2. All delegates agreed on a [final communiqué](#); ‘Building Towards an Inclusive Post-2015 Development Agenda’, which aims to push forward effective development co-operation including in support of a global development agenda to follow the Millennium Development Goals after 2015. Alongside this, [38 new concrete voluntary initiatives](#) were launched by governments, business, private foundations, civil society and others to push forward effective development co-operation.

3. The side event was held at the margins of the ECOSOC Development Cooperation Forum. As the 2014 DCF considers how to bring the future of development cooperation to the post-2015 era, the outcomes of the Mexico City meeting have an important contribution to make to the discussion, complementing the various formal UN processes in the lead-up to the MDG target date.

4. The Netherlands and Mexico, incoming Co-Chairs of the GPEDC, hosted the panel discussion with support from the UNDP-OECD Joint Support Team. The discussion was moderated by Judith Randel, Executive Director of Development Initiatives. Panellists included Juan Manuel Valle (Executive Director of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation); Louise Kantrow (Permanent Representative to the UN of the International Chamber of Commerce); Tetet Lauron (Co-Chair of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness); Monica Asuna (Senior Economist at the National Treasury of Kenya); Christiaan Rebergen (Deputy Director General for International Cooperation, Netherlands) and Klaus Rudischhauser (Deputy Director General for Development Cooperation, European Union). Participants included a range of representatives of donors, recipients, civil society, private sector, local governments, international organizations, parliamentarians and other groups.

Key Highlights from the Discussions:

5. Mr. Valle presented the outcomes of the High Level Meeting – including the communiqué and the 38 voluntary initiatives, and discussed some of the key challenges the Partnership is trying to address, including: fragmentation of cooperation and the need to coordinate a wide range of actors; building capacity to manage cooperation; insufficient mobilization of domestic resources; and the need to move towards sustainable consumption and production patterns. He noted that the Partnership can contribute to implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and seeks to maximize synergies with the DCF. He also stressed that with the growing role of South-South Co-operation, it will be important to better understand its role and impact; and that while it is crucial to maintain focus on the most vulnerable countries, there should continue to be catalytic, context-specific support to middle income countries – and that these are areas where the Partnership will seek to continue to advance discussions.

6. Mr. Rudischhauser noted that he saw the Mexico City HLM as a real success in terms of: mobilization of a wide range of stakeholders; strong senior-level engagement of developing countries; positioning the Partnership as helping implement policy rather than set it; providing an honest discussion on progress based on evidence, including from the monitoring report; and launching 38 voluntary initiatives, which showed the commitment of a wide range of actors and the potential for the Partnership reaching the country level. He noted the real challenge was to bring these strengths and maximize their contribution to the post-2015 agenda.

7. Ms. Kantrow emphasized the importance of an enabling environment for private sector to become an engine of growth and development. She noted the need for public-private partnerships and engagement of the appropriate actors at all levels. She posed the question of how partnerships with the private sector would fit in broader global dialogues on the means of implementation for the post-2015 agenda. She stressed the need to connect with UN Member States and showcase how the GPEDC could contribute to their agenda.

8. Ms. Lauron described the Mexico City HLM as ‘mixed bag’. While the GPEDC and the HLM has advanced an equitable development paradigm, she noted that the level of ambition on some aid effectiveness commitments may have been scaled back. She acknowledged the challenge of managing a diverse agenda (e.g. partnerships with the private sector with a human rights-based approach). She highlighted the need to bring key aid effectiveness principles into the post-2015 development agenda. Underlining the key role CSOs play in strengthening accountability mechanisms, she called for more space for inclusive dialogue in global fora, as was offered at the HLM.

9. Ms. Asuna noted that the Mexico City HLM provided some renewed momentum on the unfinished business on aid effectiveness commitments and on achieving the MDGs. She underlined the insufficient capacity many governments face in building and implementing monitoring frameworks and the need to showcase good country examples for mutual learning. She reiterated the importance of having inclusive and genuine partnerships to effectively implement a monitoring framework, noting also the need for financial support and technical expertise to take forward development cooperation frameworks.

10. Mr. Rebergen noted the importance of inclusiveness to the value the GPEDC provides. He underscored the need to bring concrete evidence to the global discussion and to continue reaching out to those development actors who were not in Mexico City to engage on their priorities. He emphasized the role of the Partnership in contributing to “how” to best work together to implement the development objectives agreed at the UN, and the Partnership’s focus on highlighting good practices. He noted that going forward, the Partnership will be focusing on supporting concrete actions on the ground, and capturing evidence on what works, including through the monitoring process.

11. The panel’s comments were followed by interactive discussion. Celestine Ketcha Epse Courtes, Mayor of Bagangte, Cameroon noted that poverty is local and solutions should be local. She underlined the need of mechanisms for central government to consult local governments. Ambassador Martin Shearman of the UK (a Co-Chair of the GPEDC through April 2014), stressed the importance of participatory governance as well as greater focus on quality data to validate the progress made.

12. Subsequent discussion from the floor raised the need to advance on how all actors can work together to ensure not just dialogue but impact; that the Partnership’s agenda will require all development actors to undertake serious behavior change; the importance of trust as a success factor in partnerships; and the need to ensure a continued driving role for national governments.

Additional information

13. A [recording](#) of the event is available online. Follow the Global Partnership on Twitter @DevCooperation and on Facebook. www.effectivecooperation.org