

First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation: *Building towards the Post-2015 Development Agenda*

Revised concept note and outline agenda

Proposal by the Host and Co-Chairs

Fifth meeting of the Global Partnership Steering Committee
13-14 February 2014, Abuja

This document sets out a revised proposal by Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and the United Kingdom for the agenda of the first Global Partnership High-Level Meeting to be held in Mexico on 15 and 16 April 2014. It builds on previous discussions of the Steering Committee, as well as feedback received from stakeholders on consultation efforts undertaken to date.

The draft is circulated [for information](#).

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Mexico 2014: Elements of a vision for the first High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation

1. The first High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation will take place on 15 and 16 April 2014 in Mexico City, hosted by the Government of Mexico. The event is an inclusive ministerial-level gathering intended to bring together the full membership of the Partnership to promote learning and accountability around the implementation of the commitments made in Busan (2011). It also presents an opportunity for the international community to examine how effective development co-operation can be advanced in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

2. As international deliberations on the scope and focus of post-2015 development goals intensify, development leaders have come together through the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation to take action on “the how” of development. They have placed the eradication of poverty at the centre of their efforts. Evidence shows that effective development co-operation and sound development partnerships have contributed to progress against the Millennium Development Goals. At the same time, global development challenges are increasingly complex as the nature of poverty and the development co-operation architecture evolve. The Global Partnership presents an opportunity to amplify that progress and scale up effective co-operation in ways that are fit for the post-2015 landscape. It can further improve the international development architecture in addressing universal development goals.

3. In this context, the Mexico meeting will allow governments and other stakeholders to show that progress is being made against their existing commitments and inject the sense of urgency in fully meeting those commitments – especially those made in Busan. A little over two years after the Busan meeting, the first High-Level Meeting will be an important milestone: the international community will take stock of its efforts to promote better development partnerships, showcase successes, and take action to address challenges. Evidence will be crucial, and a country-led process for tracking progress against ten agreed goals will help decision-makers to understand where progress is being made on the ground, and where more needs to be done.

4. As well as looking back, the Mexico meeting must look ahead to the future: to new development challenges; to a changed development co-operation landscape; and to fresh and inclusive partnership models. Previous models have focused largely on the role of governments. Busan helped make multi-stakeholder partnership models – involving civil society, business, parliamentarians, foundations and others – the norm, and the Mexico meeting will be multi-stakeholder by design, building on the Partnership’s comparative advantage of its broad inclusivity. Each of these stakeholders will be encouraged to put forward initiatives and commitments on how they can contribute more – and more effectively - based on their capacities and comparative advantages, to achieve common development objectives. They will also be invited to explain how they envisage working together with other stakeholders to reach common goals.

5. Aid remains vital. The principles and actions agreed in Paris, Accra and Busan remain important. As some countries become less dependent on aid, it will remain an important instrument for many others – fragile and conflict-affected states, or vulnerable small-island developing states, for example. Humanitarian aid will also continue to be indispensable.

6. Developing countries are also looking to international partners to strengthen effective taxation and domestic resource mobilisation. While tax revenues already make up a significant portion of developing countries’ GDP, they have the potential to contribute much more if

mobilised effectively. In order to do so, countries must focus on improving their tax administration and management of natural resources, as well as ensuring that revenues generated in country stay where they should be. This includes tackling illicit flows of finance out of developing countries, including transfer mispricing by multinational companies. The Mexico meeting will allow a wide range of stakeholders to reflect on issues and strategies to enhance domestic revenue mobilisation efforts in developing countries and come up with implementable modalities to achieve sustainable mobilisation of domestic resources in the coming years.

7. Poverty persists across countries at different stages in their economic development and with different income levels. This includes countries that fall in the broad group of Middle Income Countries (MICs). There are special global development challenges to be addressed from the perspective of the evolving nature of poverty, such as inequality, social inclusion, urbanisation and universal access to basic services among others. In addressing universal development agenda, MICs are fundamental players. Many, especially the lower middle income countries, are still important aid recipients, and are keen to ensure that aid supports nationally owned priorities and is delivered effectively. Others with higher incomes per capita are less dependent on financial aid, but look to other forms of development co-operation to help tackle poverty, inequality and other domestic development challenges. For providers, MICs present a set of important policy and political questions when it comes to aid allocation decisions, co-operation modalities, and ways of adapting to the changing needs of partners as countries move up the income scale. The Mexico meeting offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore the role of effective development co-operation in and with MICs.

8. South-South and triangular co-operation were recognised explicitly in Busan, and are distinctive types of development co-operation with their own histories, goals and approaches. Active engagement of actors from the Global South in the G20 and the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation is indicative of their growing influence in rebalancing the global governance structure. Most countries with a significant South-South co-operation portfolio are Upper Middle Income Countries. In an initial concept note, Mexico set out its vision for a forward-looking discussion, in which the role and potential for South-South and triangular co-operation to contribute to the post-2015 development agenda should be explored with a view to identifying synergies between different approaches to co-operation. This vision also includes how traditional providers and institutional partners engage side by side with Southern providers in triangular co-operation schemes, in the benefit of a third country. Over time, South-South co-operation actors might articulate voluntary commitments or actions in keeping with the idea of “common goals, shared principles and differential commitments” for development co-operation, as agreed in Busan. The Mexico meeting provides an opportunity to take stock of how South-South Cooperation has reshaped the global governance architecture, and which options can be explored in order to enhance both impact and quality of South-South Co-operation, as this form of development co-operation is expanding in breadth and scale.

9. Knowledge sits alongside other resources as a powerful enabler of development. It is part and parcel of international development co-operation, and at the same time, an important mode of its delivery. Harnessing it effectively and exploring the key incentives for knowledge sharing are crucial to eradicate poverty successfully. The experiences of a broad range of countries, actors and localities need to be shared. Knowledge sharing is one important component South-south co-operation, next to other instruments, such as grants and concessional loans. However, it also encompasses North-South, South-North and multi-stakeholder forms of collaboration. In Mexico, the Global Partnership can take action to foster more efficient, effective ways of sharing knowledge for development, and put emphasis on tailoring knowledge to demand in partner countries from the South.

10. The private sector is the engine of economic growth and an indispensable partner for achieving sustainable, inclusive development, employment and poverty reduction. It offers significant opportunities for technological advancement, innovation, investment, workforce training, and providing livelihoods. Effective development co-operation requires acknowledging these potential contributions, as well as the limitations, of the private sector as a development actor. It also requires a balanced approach, recognising the roles of the state and civil society working with the private sector, and respecting human rights and international standards in areas such as land, labour and gender. Calibrating and re-focusing provider and partner countries' efforts will maximise the private sector's contributions through effective, catalytic public-private sector co-operation and partnerships to support inclusive growth and inclusive markets. The Mexico meeting provides a unique opportunity to show to which extent the public and private sector can come together to improve development co-operation, further catalyse private sector-led investment and innovation in areas that advance partner country-led objectives of inclusive, sustainable growth and poverty reduction. It will also showcase examples in which private companies have successfully pushed initiatives driven by development as their primary and explicit goal.

11. To complement the substantive areas covered by the plenary sessions, a programme of side events will provide opportunities to discuss relevant related topics. Guidelines for the side event application process are detailed in Room Document 3.

12. Box 1 below sets out a revised agenda for the first High-Level Meeting.

Box 1. Draft agenda – First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation Mexico City, 15-16 April 2014						
DAY 1: TUESDAY 15 APRIL 2014						
8:00		SIDE EVENT 1	SIDE EVENT 2	SIDE EVENT 3 (1:00 hr)	SIDE EVENT 4	SIDE EVENT 5
9:00		OPENING PLENARY (1:30 hr)				
10:00						
11:00		PLENARY 1: PROGRESS SINCE BUSAN (2:00 hr)				
12:00						
13:00		LUNCH GENERAL & LUNCH VIP (1:30 hr)				
14:00						
15:00		SIDE EVENT 6	SIDE EVENT 7	SIDE EVENT 8 (1:15 hr)	SIDE EVENT 9	SIDE EVENT 10
16:00		PLENARY 2: PARTNERING FOR EFFECTIVE TAXATION AND DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILISATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (1:30 hr)				
17:00						
18:00		Reception / cocktail				
19:00						
21:00						

		DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL 2014				
8:00		SIDE EVENT 11	SIDE EVENT 12	SIDE EVENT 13 (1:15 hr)	SIDE EVENT 14	SIDE EVENT 15
9:00		<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY 4: SOUTH-SOUTH, TRIANGULAR CO-OPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE-SHARING (2:00 hr)</p>				
10:00		<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY 4: SOUTH-SOUTH, TRIANGULAR CO-OPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE-SHARING (2:00 hr)</p>				
11:00		<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY 4: SOUTH-SOUTH, TRIANGULAR CO-OPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE-SHARING (2:00 hr)</p>				
12:00		SIDE EVENT 16	SIDE EVENT 17	SIDE EVENT 18 (1:15 hr)	SIDE EVENT 19	SIDE EVENT 20
13:00		<p style="text-align: center;">LUNCH GENERAL (1:15 hr)</p>				
14:00		<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY 3: DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION WITH MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES (1:30 hr)</p>				
15:00		<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY 3: DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION WITH MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES (1:30 hr)</p>				
16:00		<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY 5: BUSINESS AS A PARTNER IN DEVELOPMENT (1:30 hr)</p>				
17:00		<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY 5: BUSINESS AS A PARTNER IN DEVELOPMENT (1:30 hr)</p>				
18:00 19:00		FINAL PLENARY				