

# Fifth meeting of the Steering Committee

## Summary

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

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## Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs

1. Nigeria's Coordinating Minister of the Economy and Minister of Finance Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala opened the meeting welcoming the Steering Committee to Abuja. The other two Co-Chairs of the Global Partnership, as well as Mexico as host of the 2014 High-Level Meeting (HLM), then delivered opening remarks. Minister Okonjo-Iweala highlighted the need for the meeting to finalise the preparatory work for the first High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership in Mexico City on 15-16 April 2014. She also welcomed the special event on the role of the private sector in development at the end of the day.

2. Minister Justine Greening (UK) started by recalling that the purpose of the Global Partnership has been to maximise the contribution of all its members to development and bring real change in recipient countries. She also welcomed the support team's efforts at online engagement, as well as the good outreach carried out by Committee members and welcomed financial contributions by several countries to ensure participation by lower income countries in Mexico. She expressed her hope that Steering Committee members would become positive ambassadors for the Mexico agenda, and reach consensus on future leadership of the Global Partnership. She hoped the Mexico meeting would deliver real action for more effective development that leaves no-one behind - putting the Global Partnership at the heart of post-2015 implementation.

3. Minister Armida Alisjahbana (Indonesia) reiterated the importance of the Mexico meeting as an inclusive global forum that can scale up effective development co-operation as part of the process of implementing the post-2015 development agenda. She invited participants to intensify their outreach efforts to secure strong engagement and high-level participation in Mexico and invited them to reach an agreement on the High-Level Meeting agenda, deliverables, communiqué, as well as on the refined working arrangements of the Global Partnership.

## Session 1: Agenda for the High-Level Meeting (*chaired by Nigeria*)

4. Ms. Okonjo-Iweala introduced Juan Manuel Valle, Executive Director of the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), who gave an overview of current plans for the format and venue of the High Level Meeting. Mr. Valle presented the revised agenda for the High-Level Meeting (see Document 1 of the Steering Committee meeting), noting that overall priorities include ensuring an innovative, action-oriented and dynamic meeting that can contribute to the establishment of the post-2015 development agenda and produce a set of concrete deliverables.

5. The opening ceremony is expected to include a select number of heads of state, along with the UN Secretary General and OECD Secretary General and other possible high-profile speakers. In addition to plenary sessions, there will be four sets of eight parallel focus sessions over the two-day meeting, which will not overlap with the plenary sessions. On 14 April, there will be preparatory meetings for parliamentarians (organised by the Mexican parliament, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Association of European Parliaments with Africa); for civil society (organised by the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness); and a preparatory workshop on the implementation of Busan commitments and unfinished business. The venue will be the Centro Banamex in Mexico City, and will feature a plenary hall, five rooms with 300-person capacity for parallel focus sessions, and an expo space, as well as standard high-profile conference facilities and amenities. Overall, roughly 1,300 participants are expected.

6. Mr. Valle indicated that invitations have been sent to ministers responsible for development cooperation in all UN Member States, as well as a select number of Heads of State. Heads of international organisations are also being invited, and invitations to other constituencies

– including civil society, private sector, foundations, and parliamentarians – will be issued in coordination with the relevant Steering Committee member or observer. National delegations have also been encouraged to bring a member of parliament in their delegation.

7. Ms. Okonjo-Iweala stressed the importance of using the High-Level Meeting to position the Global Partnership as an instrument to help execute the post-2015 development agenda. Ms. Greening added that the Global Partnership can assist in ensuring that resources available to support the emerging development agenda are used as effectively as possible.

8. Ms. Okonjo-Iweala raised the importance of a strong communications narrative and strategy to mobilise high media coverage of the Global Partnership in preparation for the Mexico meeting, which was supported by other members. The US said there was a need for a clear, honed communications campaign – perhaps focused on inclusion, transparency and partnership. Ms. Greening and Ms. Alisjahbana mentioned the need to ensure the meeting agenda is sufficiently engaging to motivate broad and high-level interest.

9. Several members raised the importance of identifying a few key, practical and actionable deliverables for each session that could serve to build interest in the meeting. There was general support for highlighting concrete examples of initiatives and partnerships that can demonstrate progress and build momentum for further action. There was also strong interest in using sessions to provide inputs to post-2015 discussions, including those related to financing. Specific suggestions included:

- a. In the area of implementation of Busan commitments: a comprehensive review of progress to date; advancing on commitments relating to multi-stakeholder partnerships and dialogue, inclusion, transparency, and mutual accountability; and making a case for the importance of development effectiveness for the post-2015 development agenda.
- b. In the area of domestic resource mobilisation: announcing provider commitments to support better tax systems and to increase spending on strengthening capacity for domestic resource mobilisation; commitments by wealthy countries to curb illicit financial flows; highlighting achievements in curbing illicit financial flows, including the work of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows chaired by Thabo Mbeki.
- c. In the area of knowledge sharing: scaling up support to country capacity (knowledge hubs) to exchange knowledge between countries, especially in thematic areas of the post-2015 agenda.
- d. In the area of the private sector: highlighting concrete examples of partnerships that can be used as a model for scaling up and which increase momentum around further partnership initiatives.

10. Several members raised the particular importance of devoting sufficient attention to assessing progress on implementing the Busan commitments, including aid effectiveness commitments made at the Paris and Accra High Level Fora. Members mentioned in particular commitments relating to conditionality, use of country systems, predictability, transparency, and civil society enabling environment. Several members also raised the desire to give increased time to the plenary session on “Progress since Busan and impact on inclusive development”, as well as to give more time to the topic through the focus sessions and a pre-meeting on 14 April.

11. Several members also stressed the importance of the opportunity for in-depth discussion on issues of development cooperation in middle-income countries and South-South Cooperation in more depth. The World Bank relayed the interest of certain multilateral development banks in being involved in the former and its support to the knowledge sharing session, and the representative of the Arab Donor Coordination Group mentioned their development of a new portal that could feature in the latter session linked to knowledge sharing.

12. Members raised the importance of securing strong multi-stakeholder participation, including sufficient representation by civil society, the private sector, foundations, and local governments. There was interest in having non-governmental speakers at the opening and closing ceremonies as well as plenary sessions; providing spaces for networking (especially for business people to network with governments); and offering funding for a diverse range of non-executive participants from developing countries. Civil society organisations specifically called for the Mexico meeting to be webcast in order to reach those who were interested in the agenda but may not be able to attend in person.

13. Several members reported on efforts undertaken to coordinate and consult within their constituency, or announced plans to do so in the lead-up to the High-Level Meeting.

## **Session 2: High-Level Meeting preparations: communiqué (chaired by Mexico)**

14. Ambassador Mauricio Escanero presented the main elements of the High-Level Meeting communiqué, as well as Mexico's roadmap to ensure that the document is the outcome of a fully inclusive consultation process. The preliminary draft of the communiqué consists of three chapters: a political preamble, a section on the implementation of concrete deliverables and commitments (particularly those agreed in Busan), and a forward-looking conclusion.

15. In addition to the Abuja Steering Committee meeting itself, major stepping stones in the consultation process will include: a European Commission meeting the following week; the Africa regional consultations in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire on 24-25 February; the DAC Senior-Level Meeting in Paris on 3-4 March; discussions in the margins of the third session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing in New York on 3-7 March; the Asia-Pacific regional consultations in Seoul on 10-11 March; the UNDCF High-Level Symposium in Berlin on 19-21 March; the CAITEC meeting of Southern providers in Beijing on 25-27 March; and the Ibero-American partners meeting in Mexico City on 27 March. Online consultations through the Global Partnership's communications channels are also envisaged.

16. While reflecting the inputs from extensive consultations, the communiqué will also hinge on two other core elements: the evidence from the first monitoring report of the Global Partnership, which will be released before the High-Level Meeting; and several action-oriented deliverables to be articulated both in the main text and in a number of annexes. Several drafts of the communiqué are envisaged. The next one will be circulated a little after the Abuja meeting.

17. As a way to complement the main elements that will feature in the final communiqué the joint support team presented the preliminary findings from the monitoring exercise. They highlighted that 'aid effectiveness' gains are broadly sustained and represent a good basis for further progress by 2015; that inclusiveness has been integrated into the accountability discussion but has not yet become fully a reality; that results on transparency need to be geared towards countries' needs; that reform takes time but it works and that the Global Partnership needs to continue investing in monitoring the Busan commitments; and finally, that developing countries increasingly own monitoring and that providers can play a key role in supporting their efforts.

18. An open discussion followed. Several members suggested that future revisions of the communiqué highlight a stronger role for the Global Partnership in the post-2015 development agenda by signalling its shift from making commitments to taking action (US, Korea, Arab Donors Coordination Group). To this end, it was strongly recommended that the document focus on substance and concrete deliverables, including on the traditional aid agenda and innovative schemes (World Bank, OECD-DAC Chair).

19. Some members recalled the need to show progress on the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States since Busan and to stress the need to identify specific ways to implement deliverables in those settings (Korea, OECD-DAC Chair).

20. On monitoring, the World Bank, on behalf of multilateral development banks, noted that the country-led process had highlighted a few inconsistencies in validating the data and recommended caution in drawing conclusions from the monitoring exercise. It also asked to review the data before the publication of the monitoring report.

21. Other specific suggestions for future revisions of the communiqué included: distinguishing the role of parliaments from that of local governments (IPU); reflecting the importance of gender issues (IPU); highlighting the importance of capacity building and monitoring systems (Arab Donors Coordination Group), as well as of remittances and financial assets (AUC); promoting more and better aid, private investments and domestic resource mobilisation (OECD-DAC).

22. In summarising conclusions Mexico called for a shorter, sharper communiqué with a convincing narrative that connects evidence to development outcomes and presents a clear vision for the Global Partnership in the post-2015 era. Steering Committee members were invited to send any further comments to Mexico shortly after the meeting to ensure their timely inclusion into the revised draft.

### **Session 3: Working Arrangements of the Global Partnership** *(chaired by the UK)*

23. Minister Greening started by structuring the discussion on Steering Committee membership into two segments. The former focused on agreeing on: the rotation and identification of a new round of Co-Chairs for endorsement at the High-Level Meeting; a proposed annual meeting in Korea to become a structured part of the Global Partnership working arrangements; and standardised regional consultations to be held in the run up to future High-Level Meetings. The latter segment focused on agreeing on the rotation, composition and revised number of Steering Committee members. The need to look at support structures was also raised as an important issue to be addressed to ensure the effective functioning of the Global Partnership.

24. Minister Alisjahbana reiterated the importance of agreeing on the rotation of Co-chairs and Steering Committee members to ensure continuity while promoting change. She also expressed the importance of having a wider representation in the new Committee and therefore welcomed its proposed expansion. She underscored the importance for the process to follow a constituency-based approach with clear criteria and mechanisms in place to select new Steering Committee members. Similarly, she expressed the need to look at the role of observers carefully so as to ensure Steering Committee discussions are productive. Indonesia also welcomed the possibility of having the host of the next High-Level Meeting (in 2016) also play the role as future Co-Chair of the Global Partnership in order to facilitate the work of the Steering Committee.

25. Executive Director Valle supported the idea of rotating the Co-Chairs and the Steering Committee, noting that the change would promote broader involvement of the wider Global Partnership membership. However, he expressed the need for the rotation to ensure continuity of the Steering Committee work. He supported Indonesia's point on the importance of identifying a host for the second High-Level Meeting that would also play a Co-Chair's role, noting that having two years to prepare a High-Level Meeting would allow for better planning than having eight months as in Mexico's case.

26. There was general agreement on the need to rotate the Co-Chairs and the Steering Committee members. The World Bank, the United States, Bangladesh, the Parliamentarian

representative and others added that it would be desirable to have a staggering rotation arrangement to ensure continuity. To this regard, the United States suggested rotating half of the existing Steering Committee members, which received broad support. In addition, reducing the mandate of Steering Committee members to two consecutive periods (amounting to a maximum of four years) was also proposed by both the United States and the European Union.

27. Timor-Leste supported a general rotation cycle of two years. Reflecting on this proposal, the United Nations Development Group underscored the importance of leaving the identification of new members to each constituency, noting that some of the constituencies have their own process and arrangement for this (i.e. OECD DAC Chair, UNGD representation), which can feed into the general rotation arrangements. The AUC also recalled that there are specific rotational arrangements already in place for some of the constituencies, and that any decisions should follow a constituency-based approach.

28. Many Steering Committee members supported the proposal of expanding the current Steering Committee from 18 to 24 seats, arguing that it would reflect the inclusiveness and multi-stakeholder nature of the Global Partnership while still ensuring the efficient management of Steering Committee discussions (Bangladesh, Chad, OECD/DAC and others). Several members noted that in practice the Steering Committee is already operating on an enlarged membership basis by fully including observers into the discussion. Some asked to discuss the criteria for expanding the Steering Committee, as well as to further clarify the observers' role, arguing that formally integrating observers into the future Steering Committee should mean no need for them in future Committee meetings (EU, US, Indonesia).

29. In terms of the composition of the Steering Committee, some members supported stronger representation from regional groups (EU, US and OECD-DAC). Specifically, CPDE and UCLG/FOGAR strongly supported an additional seat for local governments and regional governments, an additional seat for trade unions and other seats for stakeholders/constituencies that are not properly represented in the current setting. The OECD-DAC Chair cautioned against bringing new members at the expense of others already included in the Steering Committee.

30. CPDE reiterated its request for a non-executive Co-Chair. The Parliamentarian representative requested that the Co-Chairs ensure adequate consultations with parliamentary constituencies in their countries. While many members supported the importance for the Steering Committee to reflect the inclusive and multi-stakeholder nature of the Global Partnership, there was a general concern that having an additional, non-executive Co-Chair would be a challenge and pose coordination issues.

31. Steering Committee members also agreed on the need to rotate the Co-Chairs, while some suggested considering a staggered rotation of the Co-Chairs as well to ensure continuity, and the possibility of having the host of the next High-Level Meeting also play the role of Co-Chair. However, they reckoned that identifying the next host in time for Mexico would be ambitious. A proposal was flagged to organise future Steering Committee meetings at a lower than Ministerial level to overcome coordination challenges among Ministers' agendas (EU).

32. There was general consensus on Korea's proposal to turn its workshop on Busan implementation into an annual meeting, and many expressed the appreciation for Korea's initiative on this. CPDE also expressed the need for more active communication and consultation within Steering Committee and between meetings. In addition, there was a general call for more systematic engagement with relevant regional organisations and platforms. To this end, the AUC suggested that such engagement be tailored to specific regional contexts and needs, rather than follow a one-size-fits-all approach.

33. Many Steering Committee members agreed on the need to ensure appropriate and adequate support team functions. Some called for a strategic review of the Global Partnership's

governance structure and/or specifically the support structure with a view to ensuring adequate technical support to the Co-Chairs, as well as to country-based and regional actors (US, WB). Others called for a review of the support team based on the arrangements originally outlined in the Busan outcome document and on subsequent achievements by UNDP and OECD (OECD-DAC Chair). UNDP recalled that the resources provided for the joint support team had been lesser than expected, with significant implications on its expected outputs. As a way forward, UNDP suggested clarifying milestones and delivery modalities for the support facility.

34. Minister Greening thanked the Committee for their contributions, and announced that the UK would join the Partnerships for Prosperity Platform. The representative of business welcomed this. Minister Greening then proceeded to conclude by highlighting the issues where the Steering Committee had reached a fair amount of consensus:

- a. There is a need to identify and announce a new round of Co-Chairs at the Mexico High-Level Meeting, while the current Co-Chairs and Mexico explore options for identifying a host for the second High-Level Meeting.
- b. It is foreseen that some Steering Committee members will rotate while a degree of continuity is ensured. A staggered rotation approach has been generally endorsed. The rotation will need to be completed by mid-June 2014 in advance of a possible sixth Steering Committee meeting in July. A general preference for a two-year term has been noted while each constituency will agree on their own arrangements for rotation.
- c. There has also been general agreement to expand the Steering Committee from 18 to 24 members to include additional constituencies/members. These additional constituencies/members were: (1) an Arab provider; (2) an additional representative from Africa; (3) an additional representative from a provider-recipient country; (4) a non-governmental constituency from civil society, such as trade unions; (5) foundations; and (6) local governments. In order to avoid further expansion of the Steering Committee, participation of observers will be kept to a minimum.
- d. There is general endorsement of more systematic engagement with the Global Partnership's work. An annual meeting of the Busan implementation hosted by Korea will be one example of such systematic engagement in support of the working arrangements of the Global Partnership.
- e. There is also general endorsement of the need to explore the systematic engagement of regional institutions and/or organisations, as well as other platforms (i.e. Partnerships for Prosperity) that can support regional and stakeholder outreach. To this end, the Steering Committee agreed to explore ways to identify and establish linkages with relevant regional organisations and/or platforms that can support Steering Committee members through an enhanced bottom-up engagement process.
- f. A small group will look at the supporting functions of the Global Partnership, with a view to exploring how the support team can be adequately resourced.

#### **Session 4: Special session on the private sector (chaired by Indonesia)**

35. The session showcased best practices and strategies to promote stronger collaboration between the private and public sectors in developing countries, and particularly in Nigeria. The panel, featuring representatives from both the domestic private sector in Nigeria and international business associations like BIAC and the Partnering Initiative, emphasised the role of business as a key partner for development through its concrete contribution to tax payments and job creation. Panellists also recalled it is in the interest of business itself to behave responsibly. A full list of the panellists and private sector representatives is available in Annex I.

36. The discussion focused on the need to scale up businesses' contribution to development at the country and global level. To achieve this, it will be important for governments to support an enabling environment for private sector investment by providing adequate infrastructure, reducing transaction costs, ensuring policy consistency, and tackling logistical challenges.

37. One speaker said the most important action government could take to support business in Nigeria was to deliver more energy. Other speakers called for an increased focus on capacity building and intensive investment in education as two key strategies for making the best out of public-private sector partnerships. To be successful, public-private sector interaction will need to produce results and have the capacity to scale up at national level. Supporting women's entrepreneurship was also described as a winning strategy.

38. Break-out group discussions led participants to identify several steps to systematically scale up private sector investment in development, including by:

- Strengthening the regulatory system and ensuring policy consistency,
- Setting up a platform for consultation and dialogue between private, public and civil society sectors to identify constraints to private sector development in-country,
- Promoting the idea that profit-making is not incompatible with development,
- Improving the business environment with a focus on tax policy social safety nets and tax reforms,
- Fostering job creation while focusing on skills and capacity development to produce a more skilled labour force,
- Creating shared value around inclusive growth – *“when inclusive growth becomes the goal, there is development and pro-poor growth strategies”*,
- Using the business sector's experience at measuring risks and the need for adequate risk sharing between the public and private sector,
- Reducing bureaucracy and corruption,
- Addressing infrastructure deficits,
- Enhancing access to finance,
- Creating an inter-ministerial task force at country level to bring together the ministries of trade, industry, finance, and economic development, and,
- Fostering dialogue between the private and public sectors.

#### **Session 5: Agenda for the High Level Meeting (Chaired by United Kingdom)**

39. The Chair introduced Executive Director Valle, who provided an overview of logistical arrangements to date for the Mexico City High-Level Meeting. He noted that invitations have been issued to ministers responsible for development co-operation in all UN member states - with a request that delegations limit their size to five participants - as well as to a broad range of non-executive development actors. He informed the Committee that Mexico would shortly be opening an online registration portal, and releasing a delegate's manual with additional logistical information.

40. Mr. Valle informed the Committee that the guidelines for applying for 20 focus sessions during the High-Level Meeting had been circulated, with a deadline of 21 February. The Chair noted that more applications would be received than spots available, and it would make sense to look at opportunities to adapt or combine focus session applications once received. He also flagged the importance of prioritising proposals that would attract participation at the High-Level Meeting.

41. Mr. Valle expressed appreciation for those governments that have provided financial contributions to support funding for participants from developing countries. He noted that UNDP

will be providing travel facilitation through its Mexico Country Office and Panama Regional Centre. With current funding received to date, support can be provided for roughly 380 participants from low income and lower middle income countries, including both government and non-executive participants.

42. Several members requested to be kept informed of which participants have been invited (EU, IPU), and for support for coordination between organizations interested in preparing side events (OECD).

43. The EU announced that to date at least 10 EU ministers had confirmed their attendance at the HLM, in addition to the European Commissioner. The US announced that USAID Administrator Raj Shah has confirmed his participation.

44. Several members emphasised the importance of providing additional space for private sector participants to engage, in order to attract high-level participation, and that participation from business in developing and middle income countries should be encouraged (OECD, USA).

45. Members mentioned flagged planned focus session proposals, including on the topics of ending extreme poverty, data (USAID), the Arab Development Portal (Arab donors), joint programming (EU), civil society enabling environment, and human rights based approach (CPDE), innovative development finance (WB/MDBs).

46. The joint support team provided an update on funding status, noting that based on a request of USD 5.8 million for 2013-14, including travel facilitation, roughly USD 4 million had been received to date. Based on this figure roughly 300 participants could be funded. With a few additional contributions being finalized, this would rise to roughly 380 participants. The support team would work with Mexico on confirming the allocation across constituencies.

47. Mr. Valle stressed that efforts would be made to find roles for ministerial-level participants during either the plenary or focus sessions, and to ensure a regional balance of speakers. He noted that the organisers would follow up with a focal point for each session to finalise speaking roles.

### **Session 6: High-Level Meeting: Main Sessions** (*Chaired by Indonesia*)

48. The Chair introduced the session, inviting brief presentations of the plenary sessions by representatives of the core teams. The summary below reflects a few elements of these sessions. For further details, please refer to the Compendium of concept notes. All session organisers stressed that participation was expected at ministerial level and reflected the multistakeholder character of the Partnership.

49. The EU presented plans for Session 1 on “Progress since Busan and impact on inclusive development”, on behalf of the US, Korea, and CPDE. The EU noted that the session would focus on progress and challenges in implementing the core principles of Busan (country ownership, results, transparency, and inclusive partnerships), plus fragility and conflict. The format would be a mixture of moderated panels, video, and a spotlight talk. Key messages expected to emerge from the session include that progress on commitments has been maintained in a time of difficulty, though challenges to more rapid implementation remain; that inclusivity is moving from principle to practice; and that a country-focused approach is becoming even more relevant. The global monitoring report will be a key input for the session, as well as other sources of evidence. Focus sessions, and a proposed preparatory event on 14 April would complement the plenary discussion. The organisers also requested additional time for the plenary session. Bangladesh noted that it had been actively engaged and expressed interest in participating.

50. Partnerships for Prosperity (P4P) presented plans for Session 5 on “Business as a partner in development,” noting the involvement of the UK, Tanzania, Mali, Colombia, Zambia, the World Bank/MDBs, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, US, and the Partnering Initiative. The focus of the session is on country-level public-private partnerships and innovative development finance by the private sector, along a continuum of public-private dialogue. It will highlight examples of what is working and should be scaled up. The format will include a mixture of moderated panel discussion and Ted-style talks with an emphasis on audience interaction. In addition the private sector session team was preparing a series of proposed focus sessions to complement the plenary discussion. The US supported the idea of bands of thematically-linked focus sessions.

51. Mexico presented plans for Session 3 on “Development cooperation with middle income countries,” noting that discussions were ongoing with a number of countries including Belarus, Costa Rica, Jamaica, South Africa, Turkey, Vietnam, and Spain, as well as other actors including local governments. Concrete deliverables would include concrete actions – not limited to ODA flows - through which the international community can support development efforts in middle income countries; suggestions for country classification beyond per-capita income; promotion of policy coherence; and support for transition to middle income status. The World Bank indicated the interest of MDBs in engaging in the session. The US flagged the importance of providing complementarity with the session on SSC.

52. Indonesia presented plans for Session 4 on “South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Knowledge Sharing in the context of development effectiveness,” noting that the session would combine two distinct but related discussions. Deliverables would include showcasing successful examples of South South and Triangular Cooperation, guidelines on country-led knowledge hubs and efforts to scale up knowledge exchange in thematic areas of the post-2015 agenda. Bangladesh and OFID expressed interest in engaging with the session – the latter relating to a new knowledge portal they had recently launched.

53. AUC/NEPAD presented plans for Session 2 on “Partnering for effective taxation and domestic resource mobilization for development,” noting the involvement of Nigeria, EU, OECD, UCLG, IPU, and trade unions. Sub-themes for the session would include strengthening institutional capacity for domestic resource mobilization and management, and development cooperation to improve transparency and accountability, and tackle tax avoidance and illicit financial flows. In addition a number of proposed focus sessions could complement the plenary discussion. The World Bank flagged a focus session proposed by the IMF on a tax administration diagnostic tool.

54. Mexico noted the importance of coordinating speakers across sessions to avoid duplication and to allow broad participation. Mexico and the support team will follow up with a focal point for each session to finalise speaker lists and issue additional invitations.

### **Session 7: Outreach** (*Chaired by Mexico*)

55. Mr. Valle presented an overview of outreach efforts planned in the run-up to the April High Level Meeting. He flagged a number of events – both specific Global Partnership preparatory events and other relevant international meetings – that would be used to consult among constituencies on the agenda of the HLM and the content of the communique. The events can also be used to consult on the rotation of Steering Committee members.

56. Specific events include but were not limited to: a technical post-monitoring workshop (Abidjan, 24-25 February); Africa regional consultations (Abidjan, 26-27 February); the OECD/DAC Senior Level Meeting (Paris, 3-4 March); the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing (New York, 3-7 March); the Organization of American States regional consultation (Washington, 10 March); Asia regional

consultations (Seoul, 10-11 March); the DCF High Level Symposium (Berlin, 19-21 March); and a CAITEC workshop for South-South development actors (Beijing, 24-25 March).

57. Mr. Valle noted that immediately prior to the High-Level Meeting, on 14 April, there will be additional preparatory events in Mexico City for parliamentarians and for civil society, being coordinated by the respective constituencies. Members also raised interest in holding a more technical level pre-event on 14 April on progress on Busan implementation to complement the first plenary session at the HLM.

58. Mr. Valle stressed the importance of Steering Committee members serving as active ambassadors within their regions and constituencies for the preparation of the High Level Meeting. To support these efforts, he noted that Mexico and the support team would be distributing a short document with suggested messaging around the HLM; a brief logistics note; and would be updating the draft HLM agenda with additional information on speakers and participants in coming weeks.

59. The support team also updated on communications tools available for the Global Partnership, including the website [www.effectivecooperation.org](http://www.effectivecooperation.org), which features a dedicated page for the HLM; the Global Partnership's blog ([www.devcooperation.org](http://www.devcooperation.org)), featuring posts from Ms. Greening, Ms. Okonjo-Iweala, Mr. Valle and other prominent voices from governments, civil society, foundations, and more; the online community space ([www.unteamworks.org/gpedc](http://www.unteamworks.org/gpedc)); and range of social media tools. Steering Committee members were encouraged to put their press and communications focal points in touch with the Global Partnership support team.

60. The UK provided a summary of actions agreed on Day 1 with regard to governance and working arrangements for the Global Partnership.

61. Rotation of all three Co-Chairs will aim to be announced at the High-Level Meeting. Nigeria, Indonesia, and Mexico will facilitate a process among partner countries to identify the Co-Chairs representing 1) recipient countries and 2) provider-recipient countries. The joint support team will provide light coordination for this process.

62. The rotation of a portion of Steering Committee members will be announced by mid-June, in advance of the next Steering Committee meeting (see paragraph 66 below). Membership on the Steering Committee will be expanded to 24 members, with new members joining in mid-June. The new seats will represent: 1) Arab donors; 2) Africa; 3) provider-recipient countries; 4) civil society/trade unions; 5) local governments; and 6) foundations. Steering Committee members will be named based on consultation among each constituency. For provider-recipients and recipients, Nigeria, Indonesia, and Mexico will work with relevant Committee members to facilitate a process for selecting new members. Regional and other constituency consultations are encouraged to support this process. The joint support team will provide light support for coordinating this process.

63. Where appropriate, constituencies represented on the Steering Committee should identify organisations to support Steering Committee members and facilitate consultations.

64. A small group will review ways to strengthen resourcing of the support team, and provide feedback after the High-Level Meeting.

65. The current Co-Chairs and Mexico will lead an effort to identify a host of the next High Level Meeting, if possible to be announced at the Mexico City High-Level Meeting.

66. The next Steering Committee meeting will tentatively take place in the summer, possibly back to back with the UN Development Cooperation Forum in New York in early July.

## Annex 1: List of participants

### Fifth Steering Committee Meeting Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation

13-14 February 2014, Abuja, Nigeria

Co-Chairs	
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