Key messages and conclusions from the DAC Workshop on “Preparing for Mexico”

“The DAC’s ambition for the First High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership”

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OECD Conference Centre, 31 January 2014
Overall highlights from the workshop

- DAC members showed real enthusiasm and commitment to attending the Mexico meeting at the highest political level possible.

- Some DAC members (Slovak Republic, Australia, Norway and Germany) announced new financial contributions to the travel facility for developing countries to attend the Mexico High Level Meeting.

- DAC members supported a strong focus on core aid effectiveness commitments as the DAC’s main contribution to the Mexico Ministerial. The US called for a pre-day workshop on aid effectiveness issues (14 April 2014) as well as a longer substantive Session 1 on Progress since Busan and Inclusive Partnerships. There was strong support for both proposals.

- DAC members praised the unique and inclusive nature of the Global Partnership as the most innovative multi-stakeholder platform bringing together different modalities of co-operation to achieve development results for all.

- DAC members agreed that the Global Partnership combines well the “technical” and the “political” – it provides a monitoring framework to look at how development policies and resources are being implemented on the ground, as well as a forum for multi-stakeholder discussion on how to improve the quality of development co-operation and find solutions to development challenges through political dialogue and knowledge sharing.

- Further efforts will be needed to improve communication about the Global Partnership and agree on a stronger narrative for what it is, what it does, and how it can help address today’s key development challenges including the eradication of absolute poverty, fostering domestic resource mobilisation, and using aid better and more efficiently.

- The Global Partnership provides the world with a place to have a global conversation on what the right policies are and how to act them out.

The DAC and the aid effectiveness agenda

- DAC members reaffirmed their commitment to implementing aid effectiveness principles (use of country systems and results frameworks, transparency, predictability) and supporting partner countries on the ground. The DAC has an important role to play in the world’s new development architecture where aid still remains an important pillar of the development equation particularly in low-income and fragile states.

- The Mexico Ministerial is a stepping stone in a long tradition of processes (Paris, Accra, Busan) focused on improving the quality and effectiveness of aid and development co-operation which brought forth one key lesson – the way in which aid is delivered matters to the world.

- The Global Partnership provides DAC members with an opportunity to reinvent “the way we do business” and come back to the basis of our work – aid – so as to respond more effectively to partner country demands.
The Global Partnership beyond the Mexico High Level Meeting

- It will be crucial to fine-tune and refresh the Global Partnership’s focus on ‘global light’ with a stronger system for the future. A discussion on the governance restructuring and broader composition of the Global Partnership will be needed ahead of or by the Mexico Ministerial.

- The post-2015 framework will require the Global Partnership and the UN Development Co-operation Forum to act in unison, ensuring synergies, avoiding duplication, and making greater use of each forum’s individual strengths. Their close collaboration and joint action will enable the effective delivery and implementation of post-2015 objectives.

- It will be important for the Global Partnership to define a positive narrative for the future on how it can contribute to achieving development results beyond 2015, as well as on how it fits the development architecture of the years to come. The Mexico meeting will be an important step in crafting the Global Partnership’s contribution to the post-2015 agenda.

- The Global Partnership adds value to post-2015 discussions because it focuses on identifying the practical challenges to development co-operation at the country level. It will be important for the Global Partnerships to draw on its experience in building systems and capacity for development results at the country level.

- Whilst the future post-2015 development agenda is the “what”, the Global Partnership can rise up to be an important part of the “how”. The Global Partnership is a key tool for enhancing the quality of development co-operation and an existing vehicle for supporting the implementation of the post-2015 agenda.