Proposal for Terms of Reference for a 4th non-executive co-chair of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)

From the non-executive members of the GPEDC Steering Committee

1. Rationale

The Nairobi Outcome Document acknowledges the need for adjustments to the GPEDC’s technical working arrangement and modalities to suit the new global development context. A critical point in these adjustments is the addition of a fourth non-executive co-chair.  

The non-executive co-chair will give shape to the vision of GPEDC as a truly multi-stakeholder platform. The non-executive Co-Chair will help foster democratic ownership by ensuring the decision-making process of the partnership is inclusive and transparent at its highest level.

The GPEDC will be the first of its kind in the 2030 Agenda landscape where governmental and non-governmental stakeholders alike can lead the effective development co-operation agenda together. This will recognise the unique quality of the global partnership where there are strong non-executive players representing large constituencies.

The non-executive co-chair would be able to better facilitate inputs from non-executive stakeholders and bring in additional expertise on improving engagement with non-executive development actors. This will enable a more efficient approach for non-executive stakeholders to shape the agenda of Steering Committee, High-Level and other Meetings of the Global Partnership from a very early stage.

2. Modalities and functions

A. Ensure that momentum for implementing agreed effective development co-operation commitments is accelerated at the highest political levels among all stakeholder groups;
B. Spearhead resource mobilisation efforts to meet the financial and in-kind needs necessary for the full implementation of the programme of work of the Global Partnership; 32
C. Lead outreach to the full range of partners in development co-operation, including but not limited to, the business sector and emerging development partners;
D. Represent the Global Partnership in international fora related to development co-operation; and
E. Apprise the Steering Committee on progress in implementing the costed and agreed programme of work in between official Steering Committee meetings, through biannual updates (between each Committee meeting).
3. Profile

The non-executive Co-Chair role would be nominated at the highest possible level on par with the government Co-Chairs. This senior representative will normally be at the level of an Executive Director, President, or Secretary-General of one of the non-executive entities represented on the Steering Committee.

4. Role

The non-executive co-chair will be expected to:

- Represent all the non-executive constituencies in discussions about the agenda of Steering Committee meetings, questions about the programme of work, drafting of Steering Committee statements, and other such internal processes
- Perform the same function as the three governmental co-chairs
- Participate in all the same meetings and caucuses as the three governmental co-chairs without exception

5. Process of selecting the 4th non-executive co-chair & length of term

Representation will be on a rotational basis from the following constituencies in the ensuing order: civil society organisations, trade unions, local governments, parliamentarians, philanthropy and the business sector. This process will keep in mind regional balance as well as close consultations among non-executive members of the Steering Committee. These constituencies will all retain their seats as members of the Steering Committee and speak on behalf of their own members on all substantive issues on the agenda and programme of work of the Steering Committee and of the GPEDC as a whole.

Rotation would be expected to take place every two years, at the same time as governmental Co-Chairs, and in consideration of the heterogeneity of the non-executive stakeholder group. The non-executive Co-Chair will represent their constituency as well as the common position of all constituencies where possible.\(^{iv}\)

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\(^{i}\) The non-executive members of the GPEDC Steering Committee, i.e. civil society, trade unions, local authorities, parliamentarians, and philanthropic organizations deliberated and came to consensus on this document. The business sector has been invited to this proposal but there has been no response from them.

\(^{ii}\) Nairobi Outcome Document., Annex I., Paragraph 17

\(^{iii}\) Nairobi Outcome Document., Annex I., Box: A non-executive co-chair in leadership of the Global partnership

\(^{iv}\) Nairobi Outcome Document., Annex I., Paragraph 21