



EMERGING DONORS IN THE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

Joint Chairs' Statement

The conference on *Emerging Donors in the Global Development Community*, held under the auspices of the Russian G8 Presidency with collaboration from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank, was convened in recognition of the important and growing contribution to global development by new and re-emerging donor countries. The conference brought together a broad range of these countries together with long-standing donors, partner countries and international organisations with the aim to enhance the effectiveness and complementarity of the efforts of the world's diverse donors by promoting stronger dialogue and mutual understanding.

Conference participants welcomed the increasing and innovative contributions of emerging donors in assisting less developed countries towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals as agreed to in the UN Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document. They are committed to strengthening co-operation within the growing global development community, as an enlarged donor community presents new opportunities and challenges in assisting the developing world.

Conference participants agreed that the dialogue in the area of development co-operation should be intensified, in order to bridge gaps in understanding and achieve a high level of co-ordination and policy coherence in areas where co-operation is most critical. This concerns the ambition of the global donor community to achieve the greatest possible development impact by actively working towards a Global Partnership for Development, as envisaged in the Monterrey Consensus. The specific needs of Africa were recognised in this context.

Conference participants further agreed that

1. Emerging donors are bringing a strong contribution and a new perspective to the global development agenda and the development aid process, and are increasingly important in global transboundary issues. They bring new opportunities for co-operation and present a diversity of lessons and experiences of development strategies and practices that are of great value for the development community.
2. The sharing of ideas, experience and knowledge is a fundamental premise and principle of development co-operation. There is significant scope for stronger co-ordination and mutual learning between long-standing, as well as new and re-emerging donors on policy lessons and development strategies, as well as their implementation. It was noted that the OECD Development Assistance Committee has a special role in this regard. More active participation of emerging donors and their practitioners in international and multilateral development efforts will be advantageous for achieving development aid objectives and ensuring future donor coordination. Co-operation in aid delivery, including through trilateral work and with multilateral institutions, holds considerable potential for mutual learning and sharing lessons of experience and good practice in policy and implementation of development partnership. The contribution of emerging donors through classical instruments of Official Development Assistance (ODA) as well as innovative financial mechanisms are welcome.
3. The definition of donor national development co-operation policies and strategies are an important basis for the effectiveness and efficiency of aid. The delivery mechanisms of



emerging donors and their efforts for enhancing of public awareness for development co-operation should aim to consciously reflect these strategies. With increasing scope and sophistication of the international development architecture, donor strategies implemented in a framework of international co-ordination and co-operation guided by common approaches, principles and objectives promise to have the strongest development impact.

4. Partner country ownership is essential for the effectiveness of aid in achieving results, improved accountability and enhanced local participation. The Paris Declaration of 2 March 2005 encourages partner countries and donors to work together to increase the effectiveness of aid and its development impact on the basis of partner country leadership. All participants at the conference agreed on the need for closer in-country co-ordination, on the basis of partner country-led development priorities, including macroeconomic stability and debt sustainability, notably for recent recipients of multilateral debt relief. Participants at the conference have highlighted these principles and the need to rely increasingly on strengthened host country mechanisms and to support regional partnerships such as NEPAD.
5. In order to realise the full potential of development co-operation, there is a need for better information on the assistance provided by the entirety of the donor community. Donor countries not yet reporting their contributions will strive to start reporting on a voluntary basis information on annual total disbursements of gross and net ODA.
6. Recent world development offers rich and varied experiences of success and failure. In this light, the conference identified the need for structured and sustained dialogue through a number of important international fora:
 - a. The ECOSOC Development Co-operation Forum will be convened in 2007 on the mandate of the United Nations General Assembly.
 - b. The OECD Global Forum on Development will pursue a systematic assessment of the current situation and trends of the increasingly complex architecture of aid and development finance in light of the growing donor community.
 - c. The Development Committee of the World Bank and IMF is a further forum where emerging donors can engage in discussions around directions for development strategies and the flow of resources to developing countries.
 - d. Events in other emerging donor countries similar to this conference would be welcome to follow-up on the initiative by the Russian G8 Presidency.

The diverse experience and knowledge of emerging donors will be critical to all these exercises.

The emergence of new donors, together with overall prospects for growing official and private support to the developing world, presents important opportunities to enhance the impact of international aid for realising the Millennium Development Goals. Yet sustaining these positive trends and cementing an effective level of co-operation among donors will not be easy. It will be essential for donors to work together to achieve a shared vision on how their collective efforts can best contribute to poverty reduction.