



## INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON PEACEBUILDING AND STATEBUILDING

### SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE STEERING GROUP

8 June 2012, Nairobi

#### Summary of key decisions

- **International Dialogue mandate and governance structure:** Steering Group members agreed that a renewed mandate and governance structure are necessary entering into a new phase of the International Dialogue. This work will include a clarification of the responsibilities of the Working Group Chairs and the roles and support functions played by the g7+, INCAF and ID Secretariats. A team composed of three members of the Steering Group (Afghanistan, Canada, CSOs) will work with the International Dialogue Secretariat to prepare and overview the consultation process. They will present a final proposal for a renewed mandate and governance structure for endorsement of International Dialogue members before the next global Dialogue meeting
- **Political strategy:** The lead of the g7+ on this area of work was widely accepted. The g7+ Secretariat presented a draft political strategy to promote the PSGs. This will be reviewed in collaboration with a small strategic (working) group. It will include clear roles and responsibilities, and concrete plans for a September UN General Assembly side event. The g7+ Secretariat, in consultation with the wider g7+ group and with the support of the strategic group, will be responsible for delivering the strategy. The Co-chairs of the Dialogue currently lead this process. Development partners will identify a lead at a high level to take over from Denmark. Civil society and the multilateral agencies will identify representatives to be part of the group.
- **New Deal implementation:** The work done so far by the Working Group was broadly accepted and welcomed. Going forward, the Group can play an important role in support to New Deal implementation, in particular by facilitating experience-sharing, identifying opportunities and bottlenecks with implementation, and providing targeted support to Working Group members as they implement the New Deal. Better co-ordination with the Political Strategy and PSGs Indicators Groups is required. The Co-chairs of the Implementation Working Group, Australia and Afghanistan, will work with the g7+ and INCAF Secretariats to make concrete proposals for the future work of the Group by the end of June.

- **Indicators:** The Working Group Co-chairs, DRC and PBSO, will circulate a proposal for how to advance the work and a revised timeline with suggested deliverables for September 2012 for consideration by Steering Group members by the end of June. In order to keep the momentum of the process and not to lose a window of opportunity for influencing the post-MDGs discussion, the Co-Chairs will propose a middle way option which would combine the country level roll out of the fragility assessment (and identification of suitable indicators) with consultations at the global level.
- **Reporting on New Deal implementation:** Reporting on the implementation of the New Deal commitments must be aligned to and complement the monitoring mechanism of the Global Partnership for development (to be finalised end of June). A team composed of three Steering Group members (*i.e.* one g7+, one development partner, and one civil society representative) will work with the Dialogue and g7+ Secretariats to make a proposal on a mechanism to report on New Deal implementation by mid-July. This will build on the Global Partnership monitoring framework and other existing monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and on options proposed by the g7+ Secretariat.
- **Next global meeting of the International Dialogue:** The next global Dialogue meeting should take place in the last quarter of 2012, in a g7+ country. Haiti and Togo have emerged as possible options, with Central African Republic as an alternative. The Dialogue and g7+ Secretariats will explore these options and will provide an update to the Steering Group as soon as possible.
- **Steering Group composition:** The proposal presented by the Dialogue Co-chairs on how to formalise the selection process and membership of Steering Group members was endorsed. Members will be asked to formally express their interest in joining the Steering Group by the end of July. A final list of Steering Group members will be circulated by the end of August.
- **Funding:** Development partners have as a matter of urgency requested the presentation of a consolidated and comprehensive budget that presents the funding needs of the Dialogue and g7+ Secretariats, additional country-level support to the g7+ and New Deal implementation, and the activities by the World Bank and UN in support to the g7+. Furthermore, the financial oversight should reflect requests by civil society participating in the Dialogue. The Dialogue and g7+ Secretariats will work jointly on this and will present a consolidated budget to the Steering Group by the end of June.



## DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD

### I. Welcome and introduction

1. On behalf of the meeting's co-host, the World Bank, Mr. Joachim VON AMSBERG welcomed delegates, noting that the World Bank is committed to being a useful and constructive partner for New Deal implementation.
2. The International Dialogue Co-chairs, Ministers Emilia PIRES and Christian FRIIS BACH welcomed participants to the eleventh meeting of the Steering Group and outlined objectives of the meeting: *a)* discuss key issues such as the Dialogue mandate and governance structure, including membership of the Steering Group itself; *b)* present and discuss progress with the 2012 programme of work, including how to step-up implementation of the New Deal and future joint commitments, including the high-level side event at the UN General Assembly in September 2012; and *c)* discuss the scope and options for global reporting on the implementation of the New Deal commitments. Other decisions to be taken included the date and location of the next global meeting of the Dialogue and how to coordinate funding needs of the Dialogue and related processes.
3. The International Dialogue Secretariat, Ms. Donata GARRASI, highlighted the key headlines of the 2012 work programme, and briefly outlined progress since January (*i.e.* meetings of the Working Groups on New Deal Implementation and on Indicators, discussions on the PSGs political strategy).

### II. The International Dialogue mandate and governance structure

4. The Co-chairs stressed the importance of ensuring that the Dialogue mandate is clear and agreed by its members, that it considers the opportunities and challenges presented by the implementation of the New Deal, and that it acknowledges other key international processes, actors and events.
5. Ms. Alexandra TRZECIAK-DUVAL, Head of the Policy Division in the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate, made a brief presentation on the Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness, highlighting synergies and complementarities with the Dialogue process and governance structure. This helped framing the mandate and governance discussion within the bigger picture of on-going global processes of which the Dialogue and its members are part.
6. Based on the options paper for the Dialogue's mandate and governance [Document 1], Steering Group members were invited to share views on key functions for the Dialogue going forward, key features of its governance structure, and on the process to consult and come to a conclusion on a renewed mandate and governance structure.

7. Issues raised include:

- The importance of linking up with the Global Partnership (where the g7+ and some development partners are represented) and other international processes.
- The need to identify a set of principles that can guide the Dialogue's work going forward.
- The importance of ensuring that the Dialogue Co-chairs (and their teams), the Steering Group, and the Working Group Co-chairs are empowered to take decisions and lead the Dialogue process, and that their roles and responsibilities and those of the various Secretariats (Dialogue, g7+, and INCAF) are clear. As a first step, it will be important to clarify which Secretariats support which workstreams, and identify Secretariat focal points for each.
- The importance of ensuring that all Dialogue members, including civil society, participate in the process and in decision-making, and the need to maintain the annual ministerial-level Dialogue meeting as the place for strategic discussions and decision-making.
- The need to rationalise, simplify, and where necessary better co-ordinate the ways of working, taking into account the members' limits with regard to engagement with different international groups and processes (e.g. Global Partnership, INCAF, g7+, International Dialogue Working Groups and related meetings). A co-ordinated events calendar could be a first practical step to do this and to ensure the right people can participate in the right events. Revising the terms of reference of the Working Groups and ensuring better co-ordination will also be necessary.
- The importance of ensuring clear communication and information flows among the Dialogue members on the work to implement the New Deal and of the Dialogue broadly (including information on members and focal points).

**Decisions taken and next steps**

A team composed of three members of the Steering Group (Afghanistan, Canada, CSOs) will work with the International Dialogue Secretariat to prepare an options paper aimed at clarifying the roles and responsibilities of different actors in different parts of the work programme, which will serve as a basis for consultation with the Dialogue members and other partners. The team will overview the consultation process and will present a final proposal for a renewed mandate and governance structure before the next global Dialogue meeting.

**III. A political strategy for the Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals (PSGs)**

8. The Co-chairs reminded participants that a political strategy to promote the PSGs is a commitment of the New Deal and an area for joint work in the 2012 Work Programme. The leading role of the g7+ in this area was accepted and welcomed by members. The strategy is intended to:

- Create and increase acceptance in the United Nations and other key international fora for the priorities of fragile and transition countries as embodied by the PSGs.

- Ensure this acceptance is articulated concretely in major UN and other international policies and long-term development frameworks, in particular the post-2015 development framework.

9. A draft strategy prepared by the g7+ Secretariat [Document 2] based on inputs from various partners and consultations in New York, was discussed on 7 June with the members of the group that had been established to take this work forward.<sup>1</sup> The main issues discussed and presented to the Steering Group by Afghanistan, Dr. Mustafa MASTOOR, included:

- The political process to promote the PSGs must be led by the g7+, whilst remaining a collective effort that also includes civil society.
- The UN General Assembly (UNGA) is a key forum to promote the PSGs. A side event in September 2012, with a concluding statement, is the first step. An UNGA resolution may be considered at a later stage. It is also important to reach out to the Peacebuilding Commission, G77 and the LDC group. The g7+ countries' Permanent Representatives in New York have an essential role in this process.
- The political strategy must include a communication strategy (both for country-level and global dissemination, with key messages tailored to the various audiences), and requires a whole-of-government and "whole-of-society" approach. The involvement of civil society in this regard is vital.

10. Steering Group members were invited to comment on the strategy and the next steps. Comments and suggestions included:

- The need to further develop the strategy and include clear roles and responsibilities, including providing clear directions to the Permanent Representatives (PRs) in New York. The need to identify a lead amongst the g7+ PRs in New York was agreed.
- The importance of ensuring that indicators for the PSGs are developed, and that the concrete results achieved as part of New Deal implementation are used as key elements of the communication and influencing strategy.
- The importance to have a multi-layered strategy (*i.e.* country-level, regional, global) and to step up engagement at country level on the PSGs, in particular within the g7+ countries and governments, to ensure there is support from them. The proposal for assistance that is being discussed by the g7+, UNDP and the World Bank could help to address this need.
- The need to position the PSGs more clearly within ongoing international development efforts, to ensure engagement across development, diplomacy and security actors (including such partners as the African Union's Peace and Security Council), and for all partners to take any opportunity to promote the PSGs.
- The need to include a strategy to influence financing of the PSGs (*i.e.* IDA allocations; use of Global Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Funds).

---

<sup>1</sup> Members of the Working Group include: Afghanistan, Australia, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Germany, Liberia, the Netherlands, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom, the United States and the United Nations.

- A suggestion to task the Co-chairs (or other volunteers) to support the g7+ lead on this process, and to work through a small strategic (working) group rather than a full-fledged working group to implement the strategy.

#### **Decisions taken and next steps**

The g7+ Secretariat, in collaboration with a small strategic (working) group, will review the strategy including specifying roles and responsibilities, and concrete plans for the September UNGA side event. The g7+, with the support of the strategic group, will be responsible for delivering the strategy. The larger working group will serve as a reference group and will provide support as required. The Co-chairs of the Dialogue currently lead on this process. Development partners will identify a lead to take over from Denmark. Civil society and multilateral agencies will identify representatives to be part of the small strategic group.

#### **IV. New Deal implementation**

11. The Co-chairs reminded participants that implementing the New Deal is a priority for the next months and years, and that other parts of the Dialogue work programme will depend to a large extent on showing that the New Deal can deliver better results in fragile states. The responsibility for this rests with country actors, and must build on the New Deal principles (*e.g.* ownership, use of country systems). The working group on New Deal Implementation, in addition to producing basic guidance and communication support, may also provide additional, on-demand support. The Co-chairs reminded the meeting that this working group operates in parallel with the group in charge of developing the PSGs indicators. The two groups are co-chaired respectively by Afghanistan and Australia, and by the Democratic Republic of Congo and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office

12. The working group Co-Chairs (Ms. Ali GILLIES and Mr. Habib Ur Reham MAYAR) provided an overview of the work undertaken by the group, in particular the draft implementation guide, standard communications package and options for donor support to New Deal implementation.

13. Comments and suggestions include the following:

- The work of this group, of the political strategy small strategic group, and of the indicators working group should be aligned (*i.e.* guidance on the fragility spectrum should be included in the basic implementation guide) and clear co-ordination mechanisms established.
- This working group can serve as a clearinghouse on country-level experiences with New Deal implementation. A key instrument to do so is a matrix to collect country-level experiences as well as actions undertaken by development partners to implement the New Deal. This should be based on the work already done by the g7+ and INCAF.
- Information on New Deal implementation must be circulated in a timely manner to allow all interested parties to contribute to the process. Good lessons on what works and not will be critical to this.

### Key decisions taken and next steps

Delegates agreed that material produced by the Implementation working group [Documents 3a/3b/3c] is helpful as a basic support to country-level implementation. The working group can play an important role to support New Deal implementation by facilitating experience-sharing, identifying opportunities and bottlenecks with implementation and providing targeted support. Better co-ordination with the Political Strategy and PSGs Indicators groups is required. The Co-chairs, Australia and Afghanistan, with the support of the g7+ and INCAF Secretariats, will make concrete proposals for the future work of the Group by the end of June.

## V. PSGs indicators and fragility spectrum

14. The Dialogue Co-chair reminded participants about the commitment in the New Deal to jointly develop a set of indicators for the PSGs by September 2012.

15. The working group Co-chairs (Francesca BOMBOKO, Henk-Jan BRINKMAN with Gary MILANTE and Helder DA COSTA as acting temporary Co-chairs) gave an update on progress of the PSGs indicator working group since January 2012, results from the second working group meeting on 6-7 June in Nairobi, and proposed next steps and options for taking the work forward. They highlighted that a sequenced approach, i.e. focusing on the roll out of the fragility assessments at the country level, followed by working group discussions and broader consultations on indicators would not allow delivering on the New Deal commitment to develop PSGs indicators by September 2012.

16. Steering Group members broadly welcomed the progress to date. It was highlighted that this work is critical for all members of the International Dialogue for various reasons: a menu of country-level indicators will be useful for national and international actors at country level, to help generate data for fragility assessments and to measure progress against country-specific priorities for peacebuilding and statebuilding. Developing a set of global indicators will be instrumental for demonstrating progress in fragile states and giving the PSGs greater weight in the international debate, influencing the post-MDG framework and related indicators, and helping to make the case within donor agencies for increased investment in fragile states.

17. The discussion highlighted the following:

- The importance not to lose sight of the broader strategic discussion and to lose a window of opportunity for influencing the post-MDG discussion.
- A tight and realistic timeline for completing this work is necessary. Referring to the two options presented by the working group Co-chairs, several members suggested looking for a middle way option which would combine the country level roll out of the fragility assessment (and identification of suitable indicators) with consultations at the global level. This would help to keep the momentum of the process.
- It is important to look at ways for this process to take into account and improve existing statistical capacity, limited data availability, human capacity and political constraints in fragile situations. We must take into account that political challenges that may make it difficult for a country to undertake a fragility assessment and/or to identify indicators, in particular within the proposed timeframe. For countries that are in the process of establishing M&E systems for their poverty reduction strategies (e.g. Liberia), the availability of an preliminary inventory of indicators would be useful and timely.

- It is important to pursue this work jointly and to involve development partners, as well as civil society, to ensure their buy-in.

#### **Decisions taken and next steps**

The working group Co-chairs (DRC, PBSO) will circulate a proposal for how to advance the work and a revised timeline with suggested deliverables for September 2012 for consideration by Steering Group members by the end of June. In order to keep the momentum of the process and not to lose a window of opportunity for influencing the post-MDG discussion the Co-Chairs will propose a middle way option which would combine the country level roll out of the fragility assessment (and identification of suitable indicators) with consultations at the global level.

## **VI. Monitoring and reporting on New Deal implementation**

18. The Dialogue Secretariat (Ms Donata GARRASI) briefly outlined the key elements of the Draft discussion paper on reporting on the New Deal implementation [Document 5] highlighting the need to ensure that reporting on the New Deal complement the monitoring of the Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness and that the choice of methodology and mechanism will depend on the purpose of reporting (*i.e.* accountability, behaviour change, implementation, evaluation of impact). The discussion paper also includes a proposal by the g7+ Secretariat, which focuses on the ownership and role of country level actors in the reporting process.

19. During the discussion participants highlighted the importance to ensure that New Deal reporting shows what works and what doesn't, how it changes behaviours of key actors, that it is country heavy and global light, that it builds on country level capacities as well as on existing experiences and on-going processes (*e.g.* existing M&E systems, the Fragile States Principles surveys, g7+ work to establish a baseline of country experiences, DAC peer reviews).

#### **Decisions taken and next steps**

Reporting on the implementation of the New Deal commitments must be aligned to and complement the Global Partnership monitoring mechanism. A team composed of three members of the Steering Group (*i.e.* one g7+, one development partner, and one civil society representative) will make a proposal on a mechanism to report on the New Deal. This will build on the Global Partnership monitoring framework (to be finalised end of June) and other existing monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and on options proposed by the g7+ Secretariat. This proposal will be ready by the end of June.

## **VII. Other important business**

20. **Next Dialogue meeting:** The next Dialogue meeting should take place in the last quarter of 2012, preferably in a g7+ country. Haiti and Togo have emerged as possible options, with Central African Republic as an alternative. The Dialogue and g7+ Secretariats will explore these options and will provide an update to the Steering Group as soon as possible.

21. **Steering Group composition:** The proposal presented by the Dialogue Co-chairs on how to formalise the selection of Steering Group members [Document 6] was endorsed. Based on this proposal, members will be asked to formally express their interest in joining the Steering Group following the process outlined in the Co-chairs' proposal by the end of July. A final list of Steering

group members will be circulated by the end of August. (Kindly note that the timeline has shifted to take account of the delays in sending this Summary Record).

22. **Funding issues:** Development partners have as a matter of urgency requested the presentation of a consolidated and comprehensive budget that presents the funding needs of the Dialogue and g7+ Secretariats, as well as additional country-level support to the g7+ and New Deal implementation, and the activities by the World Bank and UN. Furthermore, the financial oversight should reflect potential requests by civil society actors in the Dialogue. The Dialogue and g7+ Secretariats will work jointly on this and will present a consolidated budget to the Steering Group by the end of June.