



THE 2016 ARAB-DAC DIALOGUE ON DEVELOPMENT: *ACHIEVING THE 2030 AGENDA*

18 January 2016

OPEC Fund for International Development, Vienna

ANNOTATED AGENDA

BACKGROUND

Arab countries and institutions are the most significant sources of development finance outside of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and relations between the DAC and Arab countries and institutions continue to intensify. Arab-DAC Dialogues on Development are now being held annually with monitoring of implementation of agreed actions. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) became the first Participant in the DAC in 2014, which enables the UAE to attend DAC meetings and contribute to DAC activities without being a full member of the Committee. A growing number of Arab Coordination Group (ACG) institutions report their development finance statistics to the OECD.

This Arab-DAC Dialogue on Development, which is being hosted by the OPEC Fund for International Development, follows on from several successful meetings held in recent years in Kuwait, London and Paris. It provides a platform for the two communities to exchange ideas, learn from each other's experiences, share good practice and identify opportunities for joint action on important development issues. It also helps to improve co-ordination among Arab and DAC providers of development co-operation which, in turn, improves co-ordination and ensures more effective support of developing countries' efforts to achieve sustainable development goals.

OBJECTIVES

The year 2015 was an exceptional year for the international community. Agreements were reached on financing for development (the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda*), on the new *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and on tackling climate change. The Arab-DAC Dialogue on Development is one of the first events in 2016 to bring together high-level representatives from a range of bilateral and multilateral providers of development co-operation to discuss how to support achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in the areas of development finance, partnerships and promoting private sector activities in fragile and conflict-affected states. The Dialogue will therefore enable both communities to identify opportunities for collaboration, as they have been doing through the Task Force on Energy, and to agree on next steps and joint actions.

MEETING DYNAMIC

The 2016 Arab-DAC Dialogue on Development will be organised as a high-level roundtable discussion to allow for a frank and interactive exchange among participants. Each session will be introduced by speakers with specific knowledge on the topic at hand. Their interventions will be followed by a discussion with contributions from participants, drawing on their own experience and expertise.

Each delegation will have one seat at the table, with additional seats available in the meeting room. To promote a dynamic discussion, participants are requested to keep their remarks to 3 minutes.

The Co-Chairs, Mr. Abdlatif Y. Al-Hamad, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arab Fund For Economic and Social Development and Mr. Erik Solheim, DAC Chair, will prepare a written summary of the main points of discussion and agreed next steps.

DOCUMENTATION

All documentation for the meeting is available on the Internet at:

www.oecd.org/dac/dac-global-relations/arab-dac-dialogue-on-development-2016.htm

SUNDAY 17 JANUARY 2016

From 19:00

Dinner

MONDAY 18 JANUARY 2016

From 08:30

Registration

09:00 – 09:30

1. Welcome and introduction

Welcoming remarks by the Co-Chairs

- Mr. Abdlatif Y. Al-Hamad, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arab Fund For Economic and Social Development
- Mr. Erik Solheim, Chair, OECD Development Assistance Committee

Introductory remarks

- Mr. Suleiman J. Al-Herbish, Director-General and Chief Executive Officer, OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)

09:30 – 11:00

2. Development finance to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* is the new global framework to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by 2030. The *2030 Agenda* includes an ambitious and universal set of 17 SDGs. Implementing the SDGs will require adequate levels of development finance. More and better bilateral and multilateral development co-operation, private sector investment and domestic resource mobilisation are central to promoting growth and development in developing countries. But novel, innovative approaches to development finance will also be necessary if we are to achieve the ambitious objectives of the *2030 Agenda*.

The *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* proposal for the new concept of Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) can cover a broader set of policy instruments above and beyond Official Development Assistance (ODA), and in creating incentives for additional financing from various sources. Synergies will also need to be built across the components of TOSSD, for example with faith-based finance and philanthropy.

This session will discuss how bilateral and multilateral development co-operation, private sector investment and domestic resource mobilisation can help achieve the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The discussion will also focus on innovative approaches to development finance, which are components of TOSSD.

Key issues for discussion:

- How can ODA better contribute to the achievement of the SDGs? Which development financing approaches, beyond ODA, could also help achieve the SDGs in developing countries?
- What specific financing mechanisms can best mobilise additional resources from the private sector to support achievement of the SDGs?
- How can we monitor these financing mechanisms in an effective and transparent manner?

Speakers:

- H.E. Abdulwahab Al-Bader, Director General, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development
- Mr. Scott Kleinberg, Director, Office of Donor Engagement, Policy, Planning and Learning Bureau, United States Agency for International Development
- Mr. Mohammed Abdulla Obaid Al-Ali, Director of Development Policy and Strategy, Ministry of International Cooperation and Development, United Arab Emirates

Possible outcomes:

- Increased understanding of the role of faith-based finance and philanthropy in unlocking additional resources in support of global development goals.
- Agreement to sponsor pilot studies of sustainable development finance flows to developing countries.

11:00 – 11:30

Break



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11:30 – 13:00

3. Strengthening partnerships to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

While adequate resources will be needed to ensure that the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* is successfully implemented, finance alone will not be enough to drive development. Partnerships can support collective action to achieve the SDGs: partnerships are crucial for the monitoring and mutual accountability of the 2030 Agenda, for sharing knowledge and good practice, and for achieving better development results.

As an inclusive, multi-stakeholder platform, the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) is well-placed to convene development actors to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to find solutions to the challenges of development finance and co-operation. The Arab-DAC Dialogue will bring together two key provider constituencies of the GPEDC to review progress with implementation of the agreed aid and development effectiveness commitments, in parallel to the process being undertaken by developing countries in the lead up to the Kenya High-Level Meeting in November 2016.

Building on the outcomes of the October 2015 DAC Senior-Level Meeting, this session will discuss concrete ways to improve ground-level partnerships to ensure achievement of the 2030 Agenda, for example, through expanded participation of in-country co-ordination groups. The discussion will also focus on how the principles and commitments of the aid and development co-operation agendas remain relevant in the post-2015 era, including core commitments made and reaffirmed in Paris, Accra and Busan and future actions and priorities.

Key issues for discussion:

- Which partnership mechanisms, at country, regional or global levels, can facilitate co-ordination and improve the quality of development co-operation delivered? What models and successful approaches can providers draw upon and scale-up to support developing countries achieving the SDGs?
- How can the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation, in particular, contribute to sharing successful experiences with delivering development co-operation to achieve the SDGs?
- What core aspects of the aid and development effectiveness commitments need urgent and joint action and what can providers do to accelerate progress towards them?

Speakers:

- H.E. Ahmad Mohamed Ali Al-Madani, President, Islamic Development Bank Group
- Mr. Michael Koehler, Director for the Neighbourhood, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

Possible outcomes:

- Support confirmed for the GPEDC as an important platform for implementation of the *2030 Agenda*, including through participation in its voluntary initiatives and follow up on the results of the monitoring exercise tracking progress on delivering more effective development co-operation.
- Agreement to pursue more effective and joint development co-operation activities, especially at country level, to achieve the SDGs.
- Agreement to tackle jointly core aspects of aid and development effectiveness, including by promoting and supporting co-ordination of all providers that are operating on the ground.

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 15:00

4. The private sector in fragile and conflict-affected states

Promoting more and better business in fragile and conflict-affected environments can facilitate inclusive, sustainable development and thereby contribute to the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. This session will discuss how Arab and DAC providers of development co-operation can ensure that the private sector contributes effectively to the implementation of the *2030 Agenda* in these settings, in particular by sharing successful approaches and good practice, such as that advocated by the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding and its New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States.

Key issues for discussion:

- How can providers support private sector development in fragile and conflict-affected settings in ways that mitigate risk and ensure that it contributes, rather than undermines, sustainable peace?
- What examples are there of pro-active and innovative activities tailored to local contexts, as well as addressing the challenges encountered by foreign and domestic businesses, that are ready to be scaled-up and supported?
- What experience is there with promoting responsible business practices in post-crisis contexts?



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	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Reem Badran, CEO of “Al-Hurra For Management and Business Development” Company in Jordan • Ms. Sari Lehtiranta, Director of Development Policy Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland • Mr. Eckhard Volkmann, Desk Officer for Yemen, Middle East Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany • Mr. Carlos Conde, Head of the Middle East and Africa Division, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD <p>Possible outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to increase Official Development Assistance to fragile and conflict-affected states in ways that leverage more private sector activities and investments. • Increased awareness of the approach advocated by the International Dialogue and the New Deal on private sector development and investment in fragile and conflict affected states. • Agreement to collaborate with the International Dialogue in countries where promotion of more and better business is being piloted, or to pilot work jointly in another country.
15:00 – 15:30	Break
15:30 – 16:30	<p>5. Building on results from the ACG-DAC Task Force on Energy</p> <p>A Task Force on Energy, comprising interested members of the ACG and the DAC, was established in 2015 to determine the feasibility of the two communities working more closely in a specific sector, as a complement to the exchanges on policies that take place at annual Arab-DAC Dialogues on Development. To pursue its mandate, the Task Force explored opportunities to promote jointly greater access to energy for poor people in two pilot countries: Malawi and Uganda. Greater access to energy is essential for reducing poverty. It promotes growth, ensures long-term environmental sustainability and is a cornerstone for social development. This session will discuss what the ACG and the DAC have learnt from this experience of collaborating and how to take forward the work to address some of the challenges of ensuring energy access for all.</p> <p>Key issues for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What conclusions could ACG and DAC providers draw from the experience of working jointly through the Task Force on Energy? • What would it take to turn the ACG-DAC Task Force’s recommendations into concrete activities and investments in Malawi and Uganda, as well as in other countries where energy access rates are low? • In what ways can the ACG and the DAC build on the Task Force experience to make such collaboration sustainable or address other challenges critical to achieving the <i>Sustainable Development Goals</i>? <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Suleiman J. Al-Herbish, Director-General and Chief Executive Officer, OFID • Ms. Karen Jorgensen, Head of the Review, Evaluation and Engagement Division, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD • Mr. Fuad Albassam, Assistant Director-General, Department of Operations, OFID • Mr. Jeroen Verheul, Ambassador at Large for Foreign Trade and International Development Co-operation, the Netherlands <p>Possible outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to renew the mandate of the Task Force to study how to enhance energy access in Malawi and Uganda, and expand its activities to other Sub-Saharan African countries. • Agreement to share more information about each other’s activities and efforts to promote energy access especially in Malawi and Uganda. • Agreement to promote greater involvement of Arab countries and institutions in ground-level energy-related co-ordination mechanisms in Malawi and Uganda that are led by DAC members.
16:30 – 17:00	<p>6. Closing Session: Agreement on joint actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Erik Solheim, Chair, OECD Development Assistance Committee • Mr Abdlatif Y. Al-Hamad, Director General and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arab Fund For Economic and Social Development