

**Minutes of Development Partners Coordination Group Meeting  
Held on 4 March 2004 at MINECOFIN**

Subject	Decisions Taken	Responsible	Deadline	Observations and Follow-up
<p><b>Introduction</b></p>	<p>Mr. Claver Gatete, SG MINECOFIN, opened the meeting and, as presiding Chair, welcomed participants to MINECOFIN for the second DPCG Meeting of the year.</p> <p>Introductions were made round the table and additions made to the agenda on any other business: i) Update on budget-support meeting in Nairobi ii) APR Report on country preparedness</p>			
<p><b>1) Review and matters arising from previous minutes</b></p>	<p><i>Matters arising:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>PRSC:</b> Government has presented the document for consideration to the PRSTF steering committee. The proposal will be reviewed by the committee, which comprises of the Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, UNDP and the World Bank, before being sent off for funding.</li> <li>➤ <b>Coordination and Harmonisation Agenda for 2004:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Governance cluster was convened by the Minister of State for Good Governance and minutes of this meeting will be sent out soon.</li> <li>- The Agricultural cluster meeting was also held and the government presented its policy and strategy for the cluster. Meeting was used for consultation on policy and was very successful.</li> <li>- However it was observed that the arrangement of clusters is not well streamlined; a case was noted in the four sub-clusters set up during the Governance meeting, in which one of the sub-cluster notably economic and corporate governance was very similar to the private sector cluster.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) All clusters be convened to a joint meeting in order to agree on the</li> </ul>	SG	A.S.A.P	<p><b>SG to convene joint</b></p>

	<p>modalities and functioning of each cluster;</p> <p>b) Clusters be chaired alternately by both government and donors;</p> <p>c) Alignment between sector strategies and functioning of clusters be established;</p> <p>d) The schedule for meetings be sent to the RC's Office for insertion into the donor calendar to avoid clashes.</p> <p>➤ <b>Hiring Coordination Specialist:</b> A coordination specialist has been hired to provide technical support to the clusters and give feedback on their functioning to the DPCC, and she will be arriving in the country at the end of the month.</p> <p>➤ <b>Briefing on Great Lakes Conference:</b> Friends of the Great Lakes have agreed that UNDP Nairobi will be the Trust Fund Manager for the \$10 million that have been allocated to the 7 Countries (including Zambia as a co-opted member). 60% of this budget will go to the individual countries while 40% will be for the United Nations Special Envoy to the Great Lakes to be used for regional conferences and summits.</p> <p>Participants were informed that a national women's meeting was scheduled from 17 to 19 March in Kigali in preparation for the Regional Meeting in May.</p>	MIINECOFIN	All donors	AS.A.P.	meeting for all clusters
<p>2) Outcomes of NEPAD and HSGIC Meetings</p>	<p>2 summits were held on 13 and 14 February:</p> <p>➤ 1<sup>st</sup> Summit - The APR Forum was attended by 16 Heads of State and on the agenda was the issue of selecting a panel, elaboration of its roles and electing a chairperson for the Forum. 7 members were chosen for the Panel of Eminent Persons and it was agreed that President Obasanjo of Nigeria would be the chairperson for both meetings, while Marie-Angelique-Savane was appointed as the head of the Panel of eminent persons.</p> <p>Presentations were made on how the Panel will function based on the 5 Areas of: a) political governance and democracy b) Economic governance and management c) corporate governance (including financial standards and banking), d) socio-economic development. Rwanda and Ghana will be the first countries to be reviewed under</p>				

	<p>these guidelines. During the meeting, it was also agreed that each member country would contribute \$100,000 to a Trust Fund managed by UNDP and the NEPAD Secretariat. The next meetings will be held in Maputo on May 16 for both the APR and the HSGIC. <b><i>A final communiqué will be sent out soon on the outcomes of this meeting.</i></b></p> <p>➤ 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit – The HSGIC meeting was attended by almost all the countries that attended the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Angola was included as the 17 member of the Forum while Burkina Faso and Uganda attended as observers.</p>			<p>APR and HSGIC Meeting scheduled for <u>16 May 2004</u> in <u>Maputo, Zambia.</u></p>
<p><b>3) Review of cluster system</b></p>	<p>a) It was noted that following previous meetings, government and donor clusters were now being harmonised and meetings chaired jointly.</p> <p>b) On the scheduling of meetings, it was recommended that all proposed dates be sent to the RC's Office for inclusion into the online calendar.</p> <p>c) It was noted that there was need to coordinate donor consultations carefully with guidance from the concerned Ministries to avoid allocation of resources to the same goals for various government organisations.</p> <p>d) Participants were informed that MINECOFIN had already asked donors to play a key role in the elaboration of sector-strategies and this initiative would be in place by the end of March 2004.</p> <p>e) The SG assured participants that the Ministry was reviewing the cluster system in order to harmonise all polices within the framework of the cluster structure. He said that he would convene a meeting with various partners in order to determine the way forward.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> It was agreed that the SG would communicate the outcome of this meeting, as there was a clear need for organisation within the cluster system and government priorities if the initial objectives are to</p>	<p>SG MINECOFIN</p>	<p>A.S.A.P.</p>	<p><b><u>SG to convene joint cluster meeting</u></b></p>

	be achieved.			
5) AOB	<p>➤ <i>Update on the budget-support meeting in Nairobi:</i> The main objective of this workshop was to present a proposal to Rwanda, Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia to carry out a joint evaluation of budget-support. There is need to justify why donors were involved in government budget-support. A study will be carried out in the five countries mentioned above, including Burkina Faso, Vietnam, East Timor and Nicaragua. 20 bilateral and multilateral donors will be involved and other countries were asked to participate in two capacities; a) as case studies b) as part of the steering committee. They will be organised into i) steering group made up of all nine countries, ii) management group made up of mostly donors, chaired by DFID and a representative from the EU, and iii) a reference group comprising of government and representatives of donor countries.</p> <p>Each country decided to carry out donor consultations and consultants will be selected in June. The TORs for consultants will be circulated by DFID, which will chair the process together with Japan and Australia.</p> <p>It was noted that there is need for the elaboration of a project-support harmonisation framework among all project-support donors, with guidance from the government. It was suggested that the government provides clear sector strategies for proper alignment of donors' support activities into government's framework.</p> <p>The SG asked that all donors fill in the questionnaires sent out requesting for information on projects to be carried out in the country and if need be, a workshop would be organised to train donors on how to fill in the information required in the questionnaire.</p> <p>➤ <i>PRSC Update:</i> Ms. Agnes Soucat introduced the team that is in the country to carry out the PRSC Mission and briefed DPCG participants on the pre-appraisal mission that will be taking place in the country from 1 March to 21 March 2004, in which technical discussions will be held with representatives from various ministries,</p>			

	<p>other key Government Agencies and the private sector. The main objective of this mission will be to assess what needs to be achieved by June 2004 when the final evaluation mission shall take place. The mission also invited more budget and project support donors to join discussions where possible.</p> <p>➤ <b>APR Workshop Programme:</b> Rwanda, being the first country to be peer reviewed, has prepared a country preparedness report in the four areas of the APR i.e.; Democracy and Political Governance, economic governance and management, corporate governance and socio-economic development, with resources from UNDP, the GoR and other financial institutions. The proposed plan of activities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A technical workshop is scheduled for 11 and 12 March at La Palisse Club for compilation of data and updating of information. A tentative programme for the technical workshop was circulated and all stakeholders were invited to this meeting.</li> <li>- Translation of the document into French and English</li> <li>- High Level stakeholders' meeting on 30 March to receive comments from civil societies and experts</li> <li>- Final document will be presented to the panel of eminent persons within the second or fourth quarter of the year for review and then technical missions will be called in to do the peer review.</li> </ul>	NEPAD Secretariat	11-12 March 2004	<p><b>Technical workshop on 11-12 March at La Palisse Club</b></p>
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**\*\*\*The meeting was called to an end at 12.00pm\*\*\***