

**Minutes of Development Partners Coordination Group Meeting
Held on 1 April 2004 at UNDP**

Subject	Decisions Taken	Responsible	Deadline	Observations and Follow-up
Introduction	Mr. Macharia Kamau, UN Resident Coordinator, opened the meeting and, as presiding Chair, welcomed participants to UNDP for the third DPCG Meeting of the year.			
1) Review and matters arising from previous minutes	<p><i>Matters arising:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>GLC:</i> The National Women's Conference took place from the 24th to the 25th of March. The report will be circulated soon. ➤ <i>Hiring Coordination Specialist:</i> A coordination specialist to arrive in two days time to provide technical support to the clusters and give feedback on their functioning to the DPCG. 	RCO	3 April	
2) Discussion on reporting arrangements for clusters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cluster Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Education Donor Cluster: DFID briefed the participants on the activities of the Education group, which has been meeting regularly since early 2001. (Please see attached report). Participants were informed that the group has held two retreats, one to discuss the purpose of coordination and another to discuss ways in which to work under the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) framework that was adopted. <p>DFID informed that last year's main concern was the issue of coordination and how donor systems and procedures could be aligned with government's procedures to reduce transaction costs, as coordination between these two groups is still unstable. Discussions are underway on how to build the capacity of the government to take up the leadership role and operationalise a joint coordination framework.</p> <p>Draft TORs for the Education Development Partners Group (EDPG) were elaborated but have not been adopted since no response has yet</p>	Education Donor Group	17-21 May	<u>Education Review Meeting</u>

<p>been received from the development partners.</p>	<p>The group, however, noted some areas of improved coordination such as the Joint Review of the Education Sector (JRES), which was completed in April 2003 by both development partners and government, the partnership between DFID, Sida and UNICEF in support of Gender, Education and Poverty Reviews and others (see report).</p>		
	<p>ii) Private sector Cluster: This cluster has been active since January 2003 and has met regularly, every six weeks. It has mainly been used as a forum for information sharing and meetings have been organised thematically on issues of interest within the private sector.</p> <p>It was noted MINICOM has collaborated well with the donor cluster and has continued to provide information to the cluster, but there is need to review the sector strategies in MINICOM in order to identify ways of coordinated response between donors and government.</p> <p>➤ It was noted that due to the large number of clusters that have been set up, some obstacles have arisen regarding the reporting format. Issues to deal with involve:</p> <p>a) How the reporting will be done?</p> <p>b) What kind of reporting arrangement shall be considered?</p> <p>c) What will the reporting time frame be?</p> <p>➤ Participants questioned the possibility of improving monitoring and information sharing between donor clusters and the government, in light of the recent SPA/World Bank missions, and what assistance was being given by donors to sector-wide approaches, funding etc.</p> <p>➤ The SG responded by saying that he believed that progress was being made in all sectors despite last year's constant changes in government officials, which destabilised the process. He informed that the government was going to analyse all sector strategies and produce a progress report on the poverty reduction strategy at the upcoming Development Partners Meeting. He noted that problems arose when clusters were agreed upon</p>		

	<p>but not the modalities of work such as reporting, frequency of meetings, review format, etc. He appreciated the work that the DPCG has been doing in coordinating all clusters and keeping all donors informed on coordination matters.</p> <p>Recommendations: It was suggested that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As was done for the donor calendar, a web page be created for the DPCG Clusters where minutes can be accessed by individuals anywhere; A Secretariat be set up to compile reports and minutes from all clusters to maintain uniformity and cohesion, provide support to donors and government on coordination matters and report at the annual development partners meeting; At DPCG meetings, government and donor representatives from each cluster report on cluster activities; A review report be produced every three months to examine the progress being made by clusters towards poverty reduction; A progress report be produced on a biannual or annual basis to be presented to the government and donors <p>It was agreed that there was need for all Government and donor counterparts to have a broad consultation to agree on the way forward, plan of action and functioning of these clusters, the decisions of which shall be taken to cabinet to be reviewed. The role of CEPEX vis-à-vis that of the secretariat to be set up shall also be discussed at this meeting.</p>	<p>RCO</p> <p>RCO</p> <p>RCO</p> <p>SG MINECOFIN</p>	<p>A.S.A.P.</p>	<p>Invitation to be sent out to all government cluster heads to attend DPCG Meetings.</p> <p>SG to convene joint cluster meeting</p>
<p>3) NEPAD Update</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Communiqués from the APR Forum and the HSGIC Summit held on 13 and 14 February respectively were circulated to all participants. Follow-up: Forum for partnership: A joint meeting will be held for all development partners from 14 to 16 April in Mozambique, which will be attended by all 11 member countries of the OECD, the IMF and others. The meeting will focus on Peace and Security, Education, HIV/AIDS and Economic growth and wealth creation. <p>From 24 to 28 April, an East African regional meeting shall be held as a follow-up to last year's Heads of States meeting to discuss</p>		<p>14-16 April</p> <p>24-28 April</p>	<p>NEPAD/APRM meeting-Mozambique</p> <p>Regional Meeting on NEPAD (Nairobi)</p>

	<p>projects and programmes for the East African region under the framework of all regional bodies, i.e; COMESA, IGAD, EAC, ECA, ADB and NEPAD will participate in the meeting and present their report to the Hos of East Africa to make the final decision.</p> <p>2) Briefing on NEPAD Workshop: A country status report is being prepared by Rwanda on the 4 Areas of: a) political governance and democracy b) Economic governance and management c) corporate governance (including financial standards and banking), d) socio-economic development.</p> <p>➤ On preparations for the Peer Review, the SG informed participants that the questionnaire was being modified to suit Rwanda's needs and that a National Commission was being set up with representatives from the private sector, NGOs, CSOs, the National Assembly and Government to guide the APR process.</p> <p>➤ A team of experts would be arriving in the country for an expert consultation on the report on 27 April.</p> <p>➤ Another consultation meeting will then be held with all Heads of State, stakeholders and donors in May (date to be confirmed).</p> <p>➤ The National Commission will present the final report to the panel of eminent persons, who will decide whether it clearly presents the country's situation.</p> <p>➤ Technical missions will arrive in the country to do the peer review and once the report is finished it shall be sent off to other Heads of State and Governments.</p>	NEPAD Secretariat	27 April	Expert consultation on NEPAD
<p>5) PRSC Mission Update</p>	<p>➤ From 1 to 19 March, a World Bank Mission was in the country for the PRSC pre-appraised mission. The PRSC will cover four key sectors; education, health, energy and water and will also include public service reform and export promotion. A policy matrix was elaborated in the context of the overall key sector strategies. Because some sectors were</p>			

	<p>already had advanced sector strategies, the mission, together with government officials and other donors, held a retreat in Ruhengeri to review this matrix. The policy matrix was improved and the initial draft for all sector strategies is moving towards costing. Work should be completed by June.</p> <p>➤ Participants were also informed that the Japanese had provided a \$900,000 grant to help the Government of Rwanda carry out assessment surveys and public expenditure reviews which shall be completed by September.</p> <p>➤ On 21st April the 2003 Progress Report will be launched to review the progress made in all sectors.</p> <p>➤ On the Poverty Reduction Strategy Trust Fund (PRS TF), participants were informed that a \$20 million Trust Fund was set up by the World Bank and is funded by Japan, Switzerland and Netherlands to support countries in building capacity for data collection and monitoring of PRSP implementation. It covers three areas: a) informal sector survey b) Poverty mapping exercise and training and c) PRSP monitoring system. <i>(Guidelines and information on the PRS TF shall be sent out to all development partners)</i></p>	World Bank and MINNECOFIN	21 April	Launch of Progress Report
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*****The meeting was called to an end at 1.00pm*****

Attendance List: Development Partners Coordination Group Meeting 1/04/04, UNDP

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