



XLI DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS COORDINATION GROUP MEETING
held on Thursday, 10 July 2008, at 10h00
at the Ex-MINIPLAN Conference Room
in Kigali, Rwanda

MEETING MINUTES
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ANNEX II: LIST OF ATTENDEES
ANNEX III: PRESENTATION BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF EFU (MINECOFIN)
ANNEX IV: PRESENTATION BY THE AID MANAGEMENT OFFICER OF EFU
(MINECOFIN)
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PLANNING (MINECOFIN)
ANNEX VI: PRESENTATION BY CONSULTANT (MAILAN CHICHE)

1. Review and Adoption of the February 2008 DPCG Minutes and the July 2008 DPCG Agenda.

1.1. The Chair, the Secretary General and Secretary to the Treasury, MINECOFIN, called the meeting to order and welcomed back members to the DPCG. He also officially introduced his Co-Chair and the new United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Aurélien A. Agbénonci. Mr. Agbénonci thanked the Chair for the introduction adding that he is delighted to be in Rwanda and welcomes the challenge of further steering in the right direction the One UN Initiative that his predecessor had so ably started.

The Chair then reopened the floor for any other new members to introduce themselves, and also any outgoing members to inform the forum.

1.2. Germany: The outgoing First Secretary, Cooperation (Mr. Hans von Schroeder) announced his upcoming departure and introduced his successor, Mr. Frank Maier, and also the new Cooperation Advisor, Ms. Heike Henn. Mr. van



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Schroeder expressed his gratitude to the members for having been supportive during his tenure and asked that the newcomers be accorded the same cooperation as they begin their work in Rwanda.

- 1.3. USA: The USAID Mission Director presented the new Deputy Program Officer, Ms. Victoria Gellis.
- 1.4. The Chair welcomed the newcomers and promised to extend his cooperation to their work during their working period in Rwanda.
- 1.5. The Chair then reviewed the agenda which was with minor amendments:
 - 1.5.1. The Chair proposed to omit item number 7 (Proposals for the Forthcoming DPM/Financing for development Conference) as there was yet no concrete information to share with the members.
 - 1.5.2. Several members also requested to add the following items under the "AOB" category:
 - § Public Investment Policy and Next Steps,
 - § Clarification on the "Silent Period" and its objectives,
 - § PFM Strategy and Next Steps,
 - § Update on One UN Initiative.
- 1.6. The Chair invited the meeting to review the February DPCG Meeting minutes which were adopted with the following changes on page 6 paragraph 5.22. DfID provided clarification on their comments stating that they should have read as follows, "DfID expressed its support to the conference and welcomed the initiative. However, it also reiterated the importance of timing and asked whether the FfD could be held before the TICAD."
- 1.7. The Chair approved the minutes with the above changes. He also proceeded to review the report of the 2008 Development Partners Retreat (DPR) which was also adopted with one minor change. On page 8, third paragraph, the following re-wording was proposed: "Furthermore it was agreed that a number of indicators should be disaggregated by gender and locale (urban / rural)". The



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Chair asked the Acting Director of EFU to give an update on the implementation status of the Action Points adopted during the 2008 DPR.

- 1.8. The Acting Director of EFU began by informing the members that most of the Action points had been accomplished. Making reference to the points as numerated in the DPR Report, he went on to provide the following update:
- i. CPAF-DPAF to be finalised and validated by 4th April – This was achieved albeit slightly later than 4th April.
 - ii. Each partner should communicate clear and concrete actions to be undertaken to improve performance against the Paris Declaration indicators by May 1st - The Director a.i. informed that a presentation would be given later in the meeting by EFU.
 - iii. Guidelines for individual donor assessment circulated mid-April. Response by mid May and Presentation to DPCG end of May - The Director a.i. informed that a presentation would be given later by EFU.
 - iv. Revised Budget Support Partnership Framework – draft circulated before end June - The Director a.i. informed that a first draft was completed but is yet to be finalised.
 - v. ToR for DPCG and guidelines for IWG presented at the next DPCG –
 - vi. Update harmonization calendar to incorporate the CPAF, DPAF, JGA and timing of meetings to ensure linkages with the new EAC budget cycle – This was updated and circulated. The Joint Governance Assessment indicators will be included.
 - vii. Begin planning the DPM earlier this year – The Director a.i. informed the members that the dates for this year's DPM will be communicated in due course.



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2. Presentation of final Development Partners Assessment Framework (DPAF) for validation by Christian Shingiro (Director of EFU a.i.).

2.1. Director of EFU a.i. first began by thanking those who had provided their feedback on this issue. He reminded members that the process and concept had been and agreed upon during the DPR. This was aimed at improving mutual accountability between the GoR and its Development partners. The Director of EFU a.i. informed members that the development partners would, for some indicators, undertake a self-assessment and report to the DPCG Secretariat which would then compile all the responses into an aggregate matrix. He then went on to present on how this exercise had been conducted and also inform members on the next steps:

How?

- § Reviews of the Development Partners and GoR were done at the same time by filling out questionnaires;
- § Indicator matrices were prepared and sent out to all donors, however some donors had yet to respond to policy actions;

Next Steps

- § There is a need to agree on a timetable and way forward;
- § The DPAF will be finalised in September to provide a baseline for future years;

2.2. Discussions:

2.2.1. The World Bank expressed concern with certain indicators that may need to be revisited. An example is the indicator on average sector per donor. Ambiguity arises for development partners as sector definitions remain unclear.



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2.2.2. DfID: Thanked the Director a.i. for his presentation and commended the GoR for taking on such an important exercise. It was expressed, however, that there should be careful consideration of the following:

- § The timing of Annual Reviews;
- § The timing of the end of cycle reviews;
- § The source of data. Here it was suggested that a “clean up” be conducted as there is some duplication of data between what is requested by CEPEX and that which is obtained from the DAD.

2.2.3. Sida: Reiterated the sentiments aired by DfID in congratulating the GoR for undertaking this exercise, but equally expressed some concerns. Sida wanted to know how these baselines are going to be established. There were also concerns expressed about the technical issues and definitions used by the DAD, as it was one of the sources of data used in this exercise.

2.2.4. USAID: In light of these confusions, it was suggested that definitions from Paris Declaration survey be used so that consistency is maintained. USAID also wanted to know what proportion of ODA was being used for this exercise (i.e. all ODA vs. ODA to the GoR).

2.2.5. In an effort to answer to the queries mentioned in this session, the Chair kindly requested those Development Partners that had not yet completed their questionnaires to do so, so that the exercise can move on to its next steps.

3. Presentation of donors' immediate actions to improve Paris Declaration (PD) implementation and donor comparative advantage by Zephy Muhirwa (Aid Management Officer, EFU - MINECOFIN).

3.1. The new Aid Management Officer informed the members of the findings that were reached as part of the exercise that was aimed at providing Development Partners an opportunity to conduct an inward assessment of the work that it



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does in Rwanda, and also comparing themselves with each other in an effort to see where they are better placed to provide assistance to the GoR. A preliminary analysis from the survey indicated the following:

- § There is a “low correlation between the GoR perception of donors’ involvement in different sectors and donors’ self-assessments. GoR and Donors need to come to a clear understanding of where donors are active”;
- § It was found that there is “Highest concentration of Donors and experts in the area of Good Governance than in other sectors. This leads to some under-emphasis in areas of private sector development and productive social transformation, for example”;
- § “If we look at where Donors claim to want to work, we only have 3 donors in Infrastructure, Skills for a Knowledge Based Society, Private Sector Development, and only 2 in Productive Social Transformation While, there would be 7 in Rural Development, 6 in Population and Health, and 9 in Governance”.

Regarding the next steps, Development Partners were asked to complete their self-assessments and send them to the DPCG Secretariat as soon as possible. Once these self-assessments were all in, then each Partner will be allocated another Partner’s self-assessment to peer review. This will help MINECOFIN to validate these assessments and work towards expressing preferences for a more effective division of labour.

3.2. Discussions:

3.2.1. CIDA: requested to be included in the Cross-Cutting Issues (CCI) sector because of its work in the environment and gender sectors.

3.2.2. Sida: It was clear that some of the “big actors” did not participate in this exercise, hence distorting the findings. Sida called upon them to complete these questionnaires so that an accurate picture of donor activities is



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captured. Members were informed that when Sweden was recently in negotiations with the GoR, the latter advised Sweden to steer away from some sectors as there were some activities currently being financed by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).

- 3.2.3. The World Bank wished to know if the final donor self-assessments could be accessed. Concerns were raised of the findings that highlighted the disconnect of GoR's and DPs' understanding of where DPs are operating. It was suggested that these self-assessments be shared so that DPs can review them before MINECOFIN validates them.
- 3.2.4. The Director of EFU a.i. assured members that there will be bilateral discussions between EFU and DPs to clarify the self-assessments before validation.
- 3.2.5. The Chair proposed to the forum that a timeline be determined soon so as to ensure the finalisation of this exercise in order to present the findings by the end of September.
- 3.2.6. The Director General of Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) noted that there were some confusions regarding this exercise and requested the EFU to clarify to the DPs on what is meant by Comparative Advantage. He also emphasised that this exercise, among others, is meant to encourage DPs to enter into dialogue when determining what sectors to work in, as opposed to imposing on the GoR.
- 3.2.7. DfID proposed that bilateral discussions on Comparative Advantage be held between EFU and the DPs.
- 3.2.8. The World Bank however, suggested that these bilateral discussions should take the form of trying to bring clarity on which sectors each DP operates in.



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4. Presentation of the Implementation Working Groups guidelines by Prosper Musafiri, the Director General of Economic Planning (MINECOFIN).
 - 4.1. The DG began by explaining to the members the objective of the Implementation Working Groups (IWG) as being that of improving the implementation of the EDPRS, supported by both the GoR and DPs. He took this opportunity to also inform members that the Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Planning is scheduled to present the first semester EDPRS report to the Cabinet in September when presenting the budget for 2009-2010.

He informed the members that the IWGs will act as supervisory bodies that will each oversee and guide a number of Sector Working Groups (SWG). They will serve to ensure policy initiatives that are cross-cutting are discussed, and also coordinate policy issues to ensure coherence between sectors.
 - 4.2. DfID: On the issue of funding, DfID proposed that DPs willing to support the IWGs should channel their support through the new ISP basket fund. There was also a proposal that all these new activities and dates being presented at the forum be reflected on the updated Harmonization Calendar that was presented earlier. DfID went further to propose that all DPs submit their calendars to the DPCG Secretariat so that they can be taken into consideration when populating the Harmonization Calendar with events that affect both GoR and DPs.
 - 4.3. The Director of EFU a.i. reassured the members that the updated Harmonization Calendar took into consideration the new fiscal year that Rwanda will be adopting as part of becoming a new member of the East African Community.
 - 4.4. The Chair also assured members that the dates for the reviews proposed earlier will be shifted to reflect the move to the new fiscal year cycle. However, he proposed that details be discussed in the next DPCG.



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5. Presentation on the Aid on Budget Study by Ms. Mailan Chiche (Consultant)

5.1. Ms. Chiche presented findings of her report "Putting Aid on Budget" that Rwanda agreed to participate in, among other African countries, to ascertain the extent to which aid flows are not reflected in recipients' national budget. The aim of this study is to better equip these governments to put in place structures and processes that will ensure that aid flows are accounted for in national budget documents. Ms. Chiche presented the findings for the study conducted in Rwanda and where it stands in this regard.

One of the major findings of Rwanda's case study was that the country saw great improvement in the GoR's PFM systems, however there was insufficient reflection of aid flows in the national budget documentation. There also lacked clarity on some of the definitions used for this study and this created some confusion among those consulted. Nevertheless, Rwanda's findings were quite encouraging owing to the conducive environment that exists in the country for dialogue to address different issues.

Having said that, there were some challenges highlighted by the study that needed to be overcome in order to facilitate a move to effectively recording aid flows on budget. Among the key one being the need to have streamlined aid-related data collection instruments. This is something that has been brought about in previous DPCG discussions.

In conclusion, the meeting agreed on the topic; "what can be done to put the whole aid on budget and why aid is not put on budget" to be discussed at the next DPCG meeting.

6. Feedback from the East African Investment Conference presented by Mr. Francis Gatare, the Director General of RIEPA.

6.1. The RIEPA DG informed the members that the first ever East African Investment Conference recently took place in Kigali which attracted hundreds of potential



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investors from the region and beyond. He informed the meeting that EAC conference's agenda revolved mainly on how the EAC region can be competitive, ranging from an individual level to the country level. Among the solutions to competitiveness highlighted were the removal of tariffs on goods and services, development of local firm competitiveness, changing customer service mentality, etc. These were discussed along themes such as governance, trade and investment, industrial growth, financing, etc. On the side of Rwanda, the main interest was to look at Rwanda's integration into the wider EAC market and its impact on the local market and private sector.

There was also the Heads of States' retreat that took place simultaneously, culminating to the handing over of the Chairmanship of the EAC from President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda to President Paul Kagame of Rwanda.

The DG ended by informing the members that the conference was a great success and that there were great exchanges that participants benefited from one another.

6.2. Discussions:

6.2.1. FAO informed RIEPA that it was unfortunate not to be invited to the conference as it would have given them an opportunity to present to the forum developments and opportunities in the agricultural sector.

6.2.2. The World Bank was keen to hear more about a certain Trade and Investment Agreement between Rwanda and USA that was signed along the sidelines of the conference. The Bank also wanted to find out from DG RIEPA whether Rwanda's business community identified any business opportunities worth following up.

6.2.3. DG RIEPA apologised to FAO for not having been invited but assured her that it was not intentional as there were other important potential invitees that were not approached either. This shortcoming was taken note of and



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will be a lesson to remember when organising any future similar events. Regarding the opportunities found for Rwanda's private sector, the conference turned out to be of great benefit to them as deals between Rwandan companies and foreign ones were still struck even two weeks after the conference.

7. AOB

7.1. Presentation on the PFM Strategy by John Rwangombwa, SG MINECOFIN (Chair).

7.1.1. The Chair informed members that the draft PFM Strategy paper had been completed and that the ministry was in the process of organising a validation workshop for the 23rd of July. All members are invited to attend, as they will be receiving invitations in their mail in this regard.

7.2. Clarification on Silent Period for 2008

7.2.1. The World Bank wanted some clarification on what the Silent Period means and when is it applicable this year. The Bank also wished to know whether the sectors are informed of this period, or does it not apply to them.

7.2.2. Discussions:

7.2.2.1. The Chair clarified that the Silent Period was put in place to give time the GoR (especially MINECOFIN) to focus on its preparation of the following year's budget. It is a period that the GoR would like to omit any non-budget related missions and meetings that will involve its staff. Nevertheless, line ministries are allowed to have their own missions and meetings with donors, as they are as implicated in the budget preparation process as MINECOFIN. He went on to inform members that as most sectors do attend DPCGs, they are informed of the Silent Period as much as other DPCG attendees.



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7.3. Update on One UN Initiative by Mr. Aurélien Agbénonci, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP resident representative, the Co-Chair.

7.3.1. The Co-Chair reiterated his delight at taking on this responsibility from his able predecessor and wanted to inform the members that Rwanda's implementation of the One UN Initiative is going very well. He expressed, however, that the challenge for him and his team is to maintain the momentum that currently exists. He also took the opportunity to express his gratitude to those donors that have already disbursed against their commitments to support this initiative. He also informed members that the Capacity Assessment review had been conducted a month ago and that the final report will come out soon. Discussions:

7.3.1.1. DfID thanked the Co-Chair for the encouraging update and expressed DfID's continued support in this regard. DfID wanted to know when the next One UN Steering Committee was scheduled to take place, so that they can plan ahead.

7.3.1.2. Belgium expressed satisfaction with the progress that Rwanda is making. It, however, noted that no meeting had been held since it joined the One UN Steering Committee.

7.3.1.3. The Co-Chair thanked the speakers for their comments and wished to inform them that the dates for the next One UN Steering Committee are yet to be determined and will be communicated in due course. Regarding the comments from Belgium, the Co-Chair informed members that activities have been on hold due to the transition period involving his appointment to Rwanda. He assured Belgium that they will be involved in all communications from here on.

7.3.2. The Chair thanked the discussants and expressed the GoR's commitment to continue supporting the efforts of the One UN Initiative and called upon other stakeholders to do the same. The Chair then requested Dereck



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Rusagara (AIMS Specialist, EFU) to briefly respond to the issues raised concerning the DAD.

7.3.2.1. Dereck thanked the Chair for the opportunity to respond. He informed members that there are efforts within MINECOFIN to try and address the concerns raised by some members about the different sources of data being used by DPs to report to the GoR. He also informed members that MINECOFIN is currently conducting a government-wide survey among Directors of Planning within line ministries to gauge their understanding of the provisions of Rwanda's Aid Policy and to also find out the different sources that they use when looking for data on aid flows to Rwanda. This will be important information that MINECOFIN will use while facilitating a consultant who will be hired to draft the Manual of Procedures for the Implementation of the Aid Policy. Parallel to this exercise, EFU is also conducting follow-up trainings for these Directors of Planning on the use of the DAD.

Concerning the DAD technical issues that were raised by earlier, members were informed that the DAD has been operating well with very few technical glitches from time to time. Such technical issues have been dealt with whenever they have arisen.

7.3.2.2. The Chair thanked Dereck for his clarifications and also voiced his support to MINECOFIN's efforts to find a solution that will harmonise the operations of these existing data sources. He went on to thank all members for having participated in the meeting.



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ANNEX I – FOLLOW UP MATRIX

Follow-Up Action(s)	Responsibility	Required Coordination	Action to be complete by:
Finalise and send back Donor Self-Assessments	USA, AfDB, Japan	MINECOFIN	17 th July 2008
Update Harmonisation Calendar	EFU	MINECOFIN	Next DPCG
Feedback from Accra HLF	EFU	MINECOFIN	Next DPCG
Update on DPM preparations	EFU	MINECOFIN	Next DPCG

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ANNEX II – LIST OF ATTENDEES
(by organization)

Full Name	Job Title	Organization
Mr. Diko Jacob Mukete	Resident Representative	African Development Bank
Mr. Theofiel Baert	Charge d'affaires a.i. / Head of Cooperation	Belgian Embassy
Ms. Annamaria Scotti	Head of Office	CIDA – Canadian Embassy
Ms. Amina Rwakunda	Planning and Coordination	CNLS – Commission Nationale de Lutte Contre Le SIDA
Ms. Sandra Pepera	Head of Office DFID Rwanda/Burundi	DFID – UK Department for International Development
Ms. Elisabeth Balepa	Representative	FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization
Mr. Hans Von Schroeder	Outgoing First Secretary, Cooperation	German Embassy
Mr. Frank Maier	Incoming First Secretary, Cooperation	German Embassy
Ms. Heike Henn	Cooperation Advisor	German Embassy
Mr. Hiroshi Murakami	Resident Representative	JICA – Japan International Cooperation Agency
Ms. Nathalie Boudiez	Assistant to the Resident Representative	KfW
Mr. John Rwangombwa	Secretary General / Secretary to the Treasury	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Mr. Prosper Musafiri	Director General for Economic Planning	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Mr. Christian Shingiro	Director EFU - a.i	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Mr. Alex Karangwa	Multilateral Officer (EFU)	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Mr. Michel Sebera	Bilateral Officer (EFU)	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Mr. Zephy Muhirwa	Aid Management Officer (EFU)	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Ms. Marie-Louise Mukashema	Administration Assistant	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning



Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator



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Full Name	Job Title	Organization
Ms. Mailan Chiche	Consultant (Aid on Budget)	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Mr. Emmanuel Nsanzumuganwa	Secretary General	MINIRENA - Ministry of Natural Resources
Mr. Fredericke Quispel	Second Secretary	Royal Netherlands Embassy
Mr. Matthias Weingart	Country Director	SDC – Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Mr. Arne Ström	Head of Development Cooperation	Sida – Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
Mr. Patrick Bugembe	Regional Director	UNECA – Economic Commission for Africa
Ms. Therese Zeba	Representative	UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund
Mr. John Bosco Ruzibuka	Assistant Representative	UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund
Dr. Joseph Fombi	Representative	UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund
Mr. Anthony Ohemeng-Boamah	Country Director	UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Antonia Ngabala	One UN Gender Focal Point	UNIFEM – United Nations Fund for Women
Mr. Cyuma Mbayiha	Consultant	UNIFEM – United Nations Fund for Women
Mr. Aurelien A. Agbenonci	UN Resident Coordinator	United Nations
Mr. Robin Ogilvy	Head of ACU	UNRCO
Mr. Dereck Rusagara	AIMS Specialist	UNRCO
Mr. Dennis Weller	Mission Director	USAID – United States Agency for International Development
Mr. Carl Seagrave	Programme Officer	USAID – United States Agency for International Development
Ms. Victoria Gellis	Deputy Programme Officer	USAID – United States Agency for International Development
Ms. Victoria Kwakwa	Country Manager	WB – World Bank
Ms. Maarit Hirvonen	Representative	WFP – World Food Programme



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Full Name	Job Title	Organization
Dr. Mamadou Malifa Balde	Officer in Charge	WHO - World Health Organization

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