



NINTH GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS MEETING (DPM)

CONCEPT NOTE

The 2010 Development Partners Meeting (DPM) will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders involved in Rwanda's development to engage in political-level dialogue around key constraints to aid effectiveness and encourage commitments to overcome identified bottlenecks, particularly in the run up to the MDG target year of 2015. Private investment plays a key role in supporting the economic development necessary to attain the MDGs in Rwanda. In this regard, the theme for this year's DPM is "**Effective Aid to leverage Private Investments and meet the Millennium Development Goals**".

The purpose of this year's theme, and objective of the 2010 DPM, is therefore to agree on concrete actions to address the bottlenecks and key constraints to aid effectiveness and develop a strategy to further enhance synergies between aid and private investment for attainment of MDGs. Presentations and discussions will aim for specific outputs and commitments based on this theme.

WHERE

Kigali, Rwanda – Serena Hotel

WHEN

4th and 5th November 2010

WHO

The DPM will be attended by approximately 300 senior level delegates, including:

- ✓ High Level Representatives of the Government of Rwanda (GoR) from the Presidency, the Primature, Ministries, Local Governments, Parliament, the Supreme Court, and Parastatal Organizations;
- ✓ In- and out-of-country Senior Representatives from Multi-Lateral and Bi-Lateral Donor Agencies;
- ✓ Representatives from the International and Rwandan Private Sector, International and National NGOs, and Faith-Based Organizations.

WHAT

The DPM is a biennial high-level strategic forum for dialogue between the Government of Rwanda and its Development Partners (DPs). The main objectives of the DPM are to provide a forum for:

- ✓ Policy dialogue between the GoR and its Development Partners. The Government openly engages in dialogue with DPs on major policy issues and the strategic orientation of their partnerships.
- ✓ Government to showcase its major achievements and constraints in implementing its development programmes.
- ✓ Government to present its policies and strategic priorities for national development.
- ✓ Open discussion with regard to the management of external development assistance.

The 2010 DPM areas of focus are:

- ✓ **Progress and Challenges of Aid Effectiveness Agenda in Rwanda:** (i) concrete steps to move towards greater use of Rwanda's PFM system by donors (in response to the GoR's strong progress in reforming it); (ii) medium-term predictability (i.e. transparency around commitments to 2015 – the MDG target year); (iii) enhanced alignment with national priorities and progressive actions towards aid on budget.

- ✓ **Aid / Private Sector Linkages and Synergies for Attracting Private Investment:** Key achievements and progress of the Government's efforts for enhancing conducive business environment; Macro-economic Stability; Promoting Public Private Partnership; role of aid/development cooperation in facilitating a good investment climate.

WHY

Since January 1995, Rwanda has organized several conferences bringing together representatives of the Government and its Development Partners (Multilateral and Bilateral Donors, International and National NGO's, members of the diplomatic community, etc). These conferences have provided all parties with an excellent opportunity for productive discussions on issues of development in Rwanda. The conferences have been held within and outside of the country and covered two distinct periods. The first of these was the Emergency Period (1995-1999), where the main concern was the mobilization of financial resources for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the country after the war and genocide of 1994. Since 2000, Rwanda's development programme has been based on sustainable development; thus the annual meetings have subsequently been focused on dialogue between the Government and its Development Partners on policies, strategies, and development programmes for which necessary funds could be mobilized.

The 8th DPM was held in Kigali on 27th and 28th November 2008. The meeting was opened by the Right Honorable Prime Minister Bernard Makuza and the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning presided over the proceedings, with Development Partners assisting as Co-chairs. The theme of the 2008 DPM was "Beyond Aid: Innovative Mechanisms for Financing the EDPRS," and the discussions centered on the following:

- ✓ Good governance
- ✓ Macroeconomic performance and challenges
- ✓ Progress and challenges in implementation of the EDPRS
- ✓ Emerging sources of development finance
- ✓ Review of progress against the Monterrey Consensus and Paris Declaration
- ✓ Donors' perspectives on mutual accountability

All participants noted the strong performance by the Government of Rwanda, which had in part been brought about by the strengthened relationship between the Government of Rwanda and its Development Partners. The unprecedented progress was also evident in Rwanda's score as best reformer in the 2010 World bank Doing Business Report.

Despite significant progress in implementing its commitments, the Government of Rwanda notes that progress in implementing commitments on aid effectiveness has been slow, both globally and in Rwanda. This is highlighted in the Paris Declaration Survey 2008, discussions at the Accra High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, and Rwanda's assessment through the Donor Performance Assessment Framework. In this context, the 2010 DPM aims to generate political-level dialogue to draw attention on the need to make progress on aid effectiveness agenda and to make linkages and synergies with the role of the private sector in attracting increased private investment in meeting the MDGs in 2015 MDG target year.

HOW

The DPM will feature plenary sessions based on the main objectives of the theme of the Meeting. Background documentation will be provided to all participants. The Meeting will include simultaneous interpretation in English and French. Selected documents will be translated ahead of time.

The Government of Rwanda is seeking to collaborate with the OECD-DAC Working Party on Aid Effectiveness in the preparation of the 2010 DPM. In doing so, it wishes to (i) draw attention at the international level to the Government of Rwanda's efforts with respect to mutual accountability and aid effectiveness more broadly; (ii) draw on the expertise within the Working party and its secretariat to support the DPM/DPCG co-chairs in brokering a high-level dialogue and pushing for workable commitments to overcome bottlenecks, and (iii) strengthen Rwanda's position to influence the outcomes of the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Korea 2011).

Preparations for the DPM will be focused around Rwanda's existing mechanisms, and significant preparations and dialogue will be important in order to support political-level discussions at the DPM itself. The DPAF exercise for 2009, results of the most recent Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) assessment, the World Bank's assessment of the procurement system, and the EDPRS implementation framework, provide the basis for identifying progress and key challenges of the aid effectiveness agenda in Rwanda. The Government of Rwanda – with the support of the UN Resident Coordinator – leads in the preparation of the 2010 DPM. It will also work closely with the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness and its Secretariat to ensure that Rwanda is well placed to share its experiences at the international level and influence dialogue on aid effectiveness in preparation for the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Korea, 2011).

LOGISTICS

Participants will have at their disposal a Conference Room for the plenary sessions and a Participant's Lounge for bilateral meetings. Access to PCs, internet, copying, and printing will be available in a separate Delegates Area. A Conference Secretariat will provide assistance for speakers and participants. Technical equipment for presentations is provided. Written statements to be presented at the DPM, or other materials, may be submitted in advance for circulation.