**TU-DAC Forum concept note, December 2015**

**Where we are coming from**

Conclusions from the previous TU-DAC forum, 2014:

<http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/summary_tu-dac_forum_final_logos.pdf>

In the dialogue between the DAC delegates and the TU representatives there was a broad consensus on the need to address economic development in an inclusive and multi-stakeholder way. References were made to different policies by national agencies (and EU) that integrate a rights based approaches to development. The role of the donors in supporting innovative approaches was also highlighted and the importance of supporting exploration of new ideas and mutual learning. Questions were raised on the issues of policy coherence, tax evasion/avoidance and the return of “tied aid”.

Creating a ***partnership on social dialogue*** as a relevant “how‐to” instrument of economic and social development, especially with regard to private sector policies, was felt to be a proposal that could be explored further both in the TU‐DAC dialogue, within the framework of the GPEDC and by individual donor efforts in cooperation with the relevant actors. Social Dialogue as a governance instrument for development, can give more ownership to people, can help to increase accountability, can help strengthen domestic policies and can contribute to better redistribution policy. It is a forceful instrument for reconciliation and reconstruction, and facilitates social peace.

**Where do we want to go in the long term**

* Social dialogue is regarded as a key input for a sustainable development process, especially with the increasing focus on creating inclusive partnerships;
* Promote social dialogue as MOI in the SDGs implementation agenda;
* Promote social dialogue within Donors and developing countries governments development strategies;
* Specific allocation of financial resources to support social dialogue and social partners in developing countries;
* Mitigate the growing/overwhelming priority given to “private sector” in development issues by governments and international institutions and tame corporate power in development cooperation policies;
* Strengthen alliances with institutional actors that can support this agenda at international level.

**Deliverables of the next TU-DAC Forum**

* Starting the debate on the developmental role of social dialogue with DAC members;
* Providing and discussing preliminary findings from ‘evidence oriented research’ at country level (Indonesia, Brazil and Ghana/Senegal);
* Setting the scene for possible engagement of friendly governments (this could be already at the level of further evidence gathering and for upholding final recommendations in relevant international fora on development);
* Keeping the momentum towards a formalisation of a permanent “TU-DAC dialogue”.

**Key players**

* DAC members (i.e. “Friends of Decent Work”, Swedish gov. on GND) and the EU;
* Developing countries governments reps;
* ILO;
* Employers and donor countries Development Finance Institutions (DFIs).