**European Year for Development**

*Context*

2015 will be the official European Year for Development (EYD). The official aims are:

1. To inform European Union citizens about the EU’s and the Member States’ development cooperation

2. To foster direct involvement, critical thinking and active interest of EU citizens and stakeholders in development cooperation

3. To raise awareness of the benefits of EU development cooperation.

The official slogan is: “Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future”

*Trade unions action at the national level*

**Ireland**: Irish Aid is sub-contracting Dochas (Umbrella body for Irish Development Org’s) to do much of the work. Dochas has indicated that they would like the ICTU to be on a steering group for the year and to organise an event at the Biennial Delegate Conference next July 2015.

**Italy:** UIL would like to propose to CGIL and CISL a joint initiative in 2015. No further details.

**Spain:** The “coordinadora de ONG para el Desarrollo” will organise with CONCORD, at the beginning of 2015, an activity to disseminate the Spanish proposal to have an instrument similar to the Panel on Climate Change to follow and make recommendations for the post 2015 SDGs.

SOTERMUN-USO will use the year to showcase their work and publications with the EYD logo and will take advantage of this momentum to highlight how trade unions are development actors.

*Civil society action at the European level*

CONCORD is about to sign a grant project with the European Union to organise activities (events, etc) with civil society actors, beyond solely CONCORD members.

Their key messages are Universality, Solidarity, Engagement, Support for real change and Responsibility.

They have created a taskforce with several CONCORD members.

*What could the TUDCN do?*

* Prepare research and materials on the role the EU can play in promoting the full implementation of the Decent Work Agenda
* Prepare a publication on EU policies and programmes supporting social protection and social dialogue and highlight our positions on those issues
* Produce a trade union narrative on sustainable development
* Create a specific logo