

Questionnaire for ITUC Regional Organisations, National Trade Union Centres, and GUFs on EU Development Cooperation Instruments Consultation Process

Context: The European Commission (EC) is currently undertaking the revision of the main financial instruments in the field of development cooperation, which are:

- *Development Cooperation Instrument-DCI* (covering Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe/Mediterranean area)
- *European Development Fund – EDF* (for ACP countries).

By 2010 is due to be completed the so called **mid-term review** of these Instruments, which will entail a first evaluation of the outcomes produced until present.

This process is carried out by the EC with the support of CONSULTATION rounds with the major development Civil Society Organisations, both at central level (Brussels) and at region/country level.

Purpose: ITUC is willing to engage in the mid-term review process of both DCI and EDF, aiming at prioritizing the role of Trade Union Organisations in development cooperation.

To this end it is necessary to build up a shared advocacy strategy towards the Commission, based on effective cooperation and working methodology among ITUC Brussels, ITUC Regional structures, National Trade Union centres, and GUFs.

The Questionnaire below is supposed to gather feedbacks from ITUC Regional Organisations, GUFs, as well as, National Trade Union Centres in order to collect evidence, experience and suggestions to lobby the EC effectively, as well as, to improve our internal advocacy coordination.

Action: ITUC Regional Organisations, GUFs, and National Trade Union Centres are strongly encouraged to contact the EU Delegations in the countries concerned, in order to:

- 1) get stock of the consultation process;
- 2) Providing policy inputs to be included in the next EC funding programs' priorities.

Please find below the link to Delegation contacts:

http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/delegations/web_en.htm

You are also kindly requested to fill in the questionnaire below reporting the results, and send it back to paola.simonetti@ituc-csi.org by June 30. This will be important for us to follow up advocacy in Brussels as well.

1. Knowledge of EU funding mechanisms

- A) Are you aware of the financial programmes of the EU in your country/region in the development cooperation field? If yes, which ones?
- B) Are you aware of the planning/financing process of the EU?
- C) Have you ever used EU financial resources to support your activities? If yes, which obstacles did you encounter?
- D) Are the focus and/or priorities of calls for proposals relevant to the local needs, according to the objective of your organisation?
- E) Are you in contact with the EU delegation in your country?
- F) How often do you go to the Delegation of the EU? Did you ever experience difficulties in meeting EU delegation representatives?

2. Consultation Process and Participation

- A) Were you aware of the EU development instruments mid term review process?
- B) Were you invited or able to take part in any European Commission's Delegation consultations with civil society Organisations? For which subject: DCI or EDF review? Both?
- C) If you did take part in consultations, was there an open dialogue where you could feed in your suggestions? Which input did you provide in policy/technical terms?
- D) If you were not invited to the consultation, did you contact the Delegation? Whom did you contact? What are the outcomes?

3. Future Developments

- A) What areas would you like to have more influence on?
- B) Please describe any lobbying actions/information requirements that you would like ITUC to focus on?
- C) Please share any ideas you may have to improve the working methodology with ITUC on advocacy on development cooperation policies?