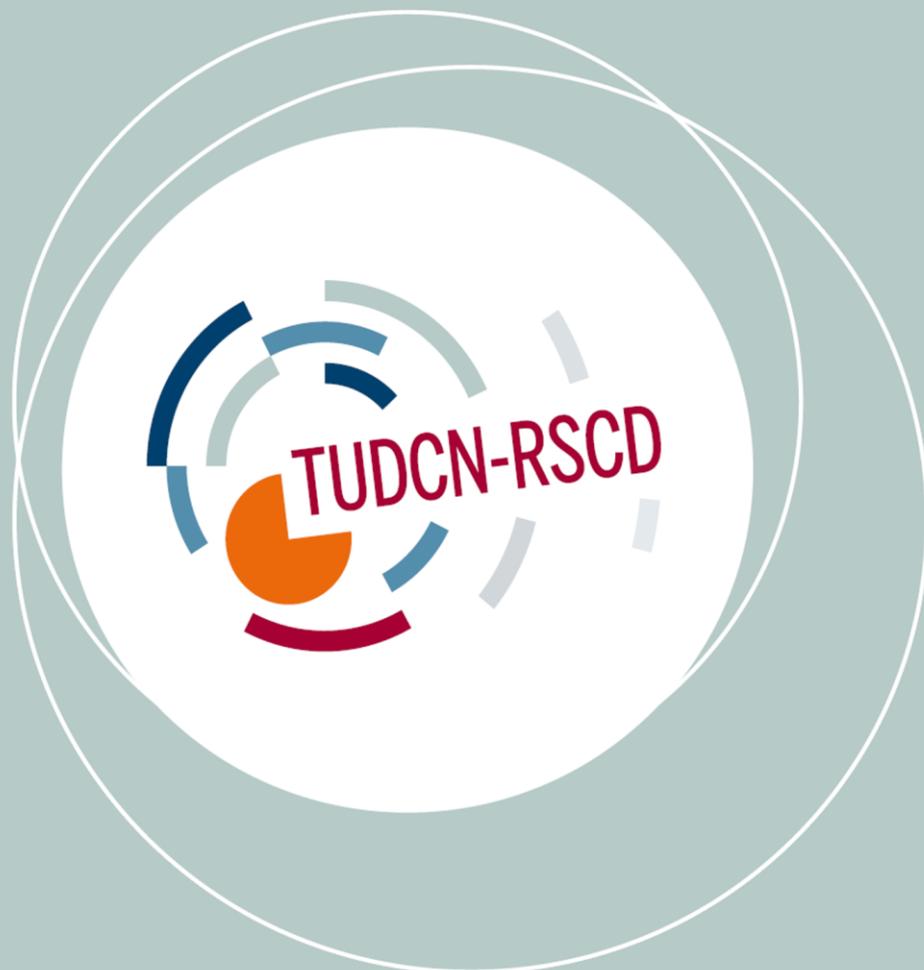


Trade Union messages to the 2nd High Level Meeting of the GPEDC

Nairobi, Kenya, 28 November - 1 December 2016



The 2nd High Level Meeting (HLM2) of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) marks the five year anniversary of the Busan Partnership from which it originated.

Trade unions remain committed to the Partnership and believe it can be strengthened by:

- Reaffirming the **aid and development effectiveness principles** in line with Paris, Accra and Busan aid effectiveness fora, as the foundation of the GPEDC
- Contributing to the **UN Agenda 2030** for Sustainable Development through making development cooperation more effective
- Continuing to strengthen the **monitoring process** on the implementation of the effective development cooperation commitments
- Continuing to champion **decent work**, the **human rights based approach**, and the **enabling environment** for civil society
- Promoting and learning from **social dialogue** as an established multi-stakeholder partnership for development
- Ensuring that the **private sector** adheres to the development effectiveness principles and internationally agreed human rights norms and standards
- Renewing a **mandate** which focuses on **implementation** of effective development cooperation commitments through more concrete objectives and operational activities

Aid and development effectiveness give purpose to the GPEDC

The **Busan Partnership principles** remain the foundation of the GPEDC and should be reinforced in all aspects of the GPEDC's work. Equally as important are the origins of these principles, which date back to the Rome, Paris and Accra high level meetings. The aid and development effectiveness commitments taken in these respective agreements, as well as its aim of making development cooperation more effective, are the basis of the GPEDC's existence. As a starting point, the HLM2 should reaffirm these commitments as the GPEDC's frame of reference.

Achieving sustainable development through effective development cooperation

The adoption of the **UN Agenda 2030** rightfully necessitates that the GPEDC examines how it can best contribute to the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets. It is not possible for the GPEDC to cover all aspects of Means of Implementation of the Agenda 2030. Instead the partnership should focus on and demonstrate how improving the effectiveness of development cooperation will support the achievement of the SDGs.

Strengthening monitoring will strengthen the GPEDC and its cause

The focus on **mutual accountability**, supported by evidence and data, is a hallmark of the GPEDC. The monitoring framework is the cornerstone of the GPEDC and should continue to be strengthened to better reflect the totality of the aid and development effectiveness commitments. Identifying ways to better utilise the findings of the monitoring report in support of the mutual accountability function should be further explored and developed. Similarly, establishing more inclusive modalities for reaching the GPEDC constituencies in the monitoring and assessment at all levels is necessary. Monitoring is not an exercise in itself: it must be used to trigger change in how things are done. In view of this, the GPEDC should ensure a space and operational means that is conducive to shared analysis and dialogue in order to serve as policy drivers for improvement.

Pursuing decent work, respecting human rights and providing an enabling environment for civil society

A key feature of the aid and development effectiveness principles is the commitment to **inclusive development**. For trade unions, inclusive development means creating decent work and undertaking a human rights based approach to development. Fundamental to this is an enabling environment for trade union organisations: one that is based on the freedom of association and collective bargaining, as well as on facilitating the dialogue with institutions contributing to governance and accountability. The GPEDC needs to continue to be a champion of the enabling environment for trade unions and civil society particularly at the national level and through development cooperation efforts.

Promoting social dialogue in pursuit of effective development cooperation

Social dialogue between employers' and workers' representatives makes a fundamental contribution to the principles which are at the heart of the development effectiveness agenda; namely those of ownership, inclusive partnerships and accountability. Multi-stakeholder partnerships are gaining increasing relevance in the development arena, especially in the context of the GPEDC and also with respect to the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030. As a form of multi-stakeholder partnership which has worked for decades in many countries around the world, social dialogue should also be supported in the context of the GPEDC.

Private sector must adhere to the principles of the GPEDC

The private sector is not a new development actor, but the ways in which donors engage with the private sector have become more diverse in recent years. An increasing role for the **private sector** presents inherent risks and must therefore be combined with appropriate engagement criteria, such as the adherence and implementation of development effectiveness commitments, labour standards, and decent job creation. Broad and uncritical promotion of the private sector will do little to support the realisation of our shared commitments, whereas identifying ways to ensure the private sector is accountable to sustainable development objectives can have a lasting impact.

Renewing GPEDC mandate and working arrangements

The GPEDC needs to maintain momentum between high level meetings through regular policy exchange on a technical level. Creating spaces for practitioners to meet and exchange on how to improve the effectiveness of development cooperation will be key over the next cycle of the GPEDC's work. Operationally, the GPEDC should place greater emphasis on **technical level exchanges**, supported by evidence and data, aimed at shaping policy. A priority of the renewed mandate should be to strengthen and link the evidence gathering with the communities of practice, especially the Global Partnership Initiatives (GPIs), through more regular exchange and engagement.

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The Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN) is an initiative of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), bringing together affiliated trade union organisations, solidarity support organisations, regional ITUC organisations, the Global Union Federations (GUFs), the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and the Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC). TUDCN's objective is to bring the trade union perspective into the international development policy debates and improve the coordination and effectiveness of trade union development cooperation activities.

Le **Réseau syndical de coopération au développement (RSCD)** est une initiative de la Confédération syndicale internationale (CSI) réunissant des organisations syndicales affiliées, des organisations de solidarité, les organisations régionales de la CSI, ainsi que les Fédérations syndicales internationales (les fédérations sectorielles - FSI), la Confédération européenne des syndicats (CES) et la Commission syndicale consultative auprès de l'OCDE (TUAC). Le RSCD a pour but de traduire la perspective syndicale dans les débats sur la politique en matière de développement international et d'améliorer la coordination et l'efficacité des activités syndicales dans le domaine de la coopération au développement.

La **Red Sindical de Cooperación al Desarrollo (RSCD)** es una iniciativa de la Confederación Sindical Internacional (CSI), que agrupa a diversas organizaciones sindicales afiliadas, organizaciones solidarias (OS), organizaciones regionales de la CSI, las Federaciones Sindicales Internacionales (FSI), la Confederación Europea de Sindicatos (CES) y la Comisión Sindical Consultiva ante la OCDE (TUAC). El objetivo de la red es aportar la perspectiva sindical a los debates políticos y mejorar la coordinación y la eficacia de las actividades sindicales relacionadas con la cooperación al desarrollo.



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