



TUDCN General Meeting 2015

Florence, 27-29 April 2015

Meeting report

Venue: Centro Studi CISL, Via della Piazzuola, 71, 50133 Florence, Italy.

Day 1 – Monday 27 April 2015

OPENING OF THE GENERAL MEETING

In the chair: Wellington Chibebe, Deputy General Secretary, ITUC

Wellington Chibebe welcomed the participants and the guest speakers. The TUDCN video was shown.

Richard KOZUL-WRIGHT, Director of the Division of Globalisation and Development Strategies, UNCTAD, gave the KEYNOTE SPEECH *“ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES BEYOND 2015”*.

He said SDGs a more ambitious agenda than the MDGs, and is universal and integrated through its 17 goals, 169 targets and several hundred indicators. He said that, despite progress, generating more employment and formal work in developing countries remains a pending task. For developed countries the jobs deficit caused by the sluggish recovery is by far the most pressing problem.

He proposed strategic policy scenarios for sustained growth and employment: Boost public spending (as the primary basis for stable growth of consumption and private investment); improvements in income distribution; wage-led growth combined with a robust tax regime, Transform the supply-side, better links between investment technological progress, and export expansion; and tame finance: credit creation for the promotion of employment-generation production activities.

He added that taxation should be a multilateral issue, by giving a greater role to the UN, establishing an international convention against tax avoidance and evasion and extending and making mandatory international initiatives such as the Transparency Initiative in Extractive Industries.

His presentation available here: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/presentation_tudcn_richard_kozul-wright_unctad

WELCOME WORDS

Maurizio Petriccioli, Confederal Secretary, CISL, welcomed the participants. He said the private sector should be accountable when working on development. He added that CSOs and trade unions should have a bigger role in global governance, for an inclusive and sustainable development. He also said that the TUDCN should be reinforced through SSOs (e.g. ISCOS).

1. Presentation and Adoption of the Agenda

The TUDCN-ITUC team and the GM participants presented themselves. A list of participants is included in Annex to this report.

The GM agenda was approved

2. Approval of the [report](#) from the previous TUDCN meeting

The report was approved.

3. Highlights from the [ITUC Congress events](#)

Jan Dereymaeker explained that ITUC Congress' conclusions reaffirm the work done by TUDCN. Regional development networks should be further developed, for them to join global efforts for advocacy on development policies. The Congress also addressed the trade union partnerships and South-South cooperation.

4. TUDCN governance: Open Coordination meeting – [report](#)

Diego López González presented the Sao Paulo agreement, the work of the TUDCN Steering group and the working groups during the GM.

PART I: PROGRESS REPORTS

In the chair: Jan Dereymaeker, outgoing Coordinator, TUDCN.

Before opening the progress reports discussion, Jan Dereymaeker shared the sad news of the earthquake in Nepal. TUDCN sent his heartfelt condolences, support and solidarity.

5. TUDCN activities report May 2014-April 2015

a) Advocacy, state of play and results

UN post-2015 and FfD

Matt Simonds (TUDCN) presented the most recent activities and said it is premature to evaluate the outcomes, since negotiations are not over and the FfD conference will take place in Addis Ababa in July 2015. There are a total of 17 goals, 169 targets and 2 indicators per target. The goals are pretty much adopted. TUDCN is trying to identify how goals combine with financial means and accountability. The UN is not very accountability-prone. Still, there is a strong consensus between OECD and G77.

The FfD process started in 2000. Monterrey 2002. Doha 2008. Addis Ababa is in July 2015. Some expected results: zero draft with references to ILO. Domestic resource mobilisation is very important, implying an underlying move away from focusing primarily on ODA. It is far too early to tell anything on results.

TUDCN produced two position papers:

- On post-2015: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/post-2015-trade-union-perspective>
- On Financing for Development: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/TUs-position-FfD>

Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)/CSO Platform (CPDE)

Matt Simonds (TUDCN) talked about the Post-Busan process. 1st and most important, a seat within the Steering committee (the governing body of the CPEDC) was achieved.

Paola Simonetti (TUDCN) described the outcomes of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE), the CSO counterpart of the GPEDC. A high-level panel on HRBA was organised in Mexico. The Mexico Communique HRBA is highlighted only when it comes to CSO, instead of the whole development community. Nonetheless, there were high level speakers, one from the Finnish Government, and the Danish development Minister, plus a representative from the ILO. In terms of research, TUDCN published “Business Accountability FOR Development” with Eurodad, supported by the CPDE.

OECD-DAC

Jan Dereymaeker said one of the fruits of the Marshall Plan/OECD is the importance it gives to social partners (TUAC and BIAC) and thus to social dialogue as an element of economic development. Though they never took that to the DAC. However, since 2013, TUDCN managed to be recognised and be invited to DAC meetings. In October 2014 a first TU-DAC Forum took place, TUs voiced out where they stand when it comes to economic and social development. We found common ground with some governments (e.g. social dialogue). The EU seemed officially interested in some points of TU agenda.

The Summary conclusions of the 2014 OECD-DAC and Trade Union forum are available here: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/summary_tu-dac_forum_final_logos.pdf

EU policies

Paola Simonetti explained that EU development policies have been following the overall global agenda (post-2015, SDGs, FfD). The European Commission released 2 communications. They both support PPP and blending mechanisms. TUDCN has been releasing position papers criticizing this stand. The latest Council conclusions were more progressive than the European Commission text itself. The duty of business in the “implementation of internationally recognised guidelines and principles concerning business behaviour” was clearer than with the European Commission. In the European Commission communication on Post-2015 social dialogue is not mentioned. TUDCN has been quite vocal on that as well.

TUDCN has followed the European Parliament agenda. Two important reports 1) global framework in 2014. We’ve found nice references and elaboration on messages we wanted to see, namely fighting inequalities, social protection floor, legally binding rules for business and support for FTT. 2) European Parliament opinion on FfD. This inspired 291 amendments. So far TUDCN has managed to support social dialogue and human rights and environmental standards when it comes to private sector and FfD.

Policy Forum on Development: all TUDCN position papers served for our participation in these events. In Lima 2014 there was the first regional PFD forum. Marita González (CGT, Argentina) spoke there. In Brussels in March 2015, FfD was high on the agenda. ILO/ACTRAV was involved, with Claude Akpokavie speaking at a panel debate. TUDCN advocated to the inclusion of social dialogue in the FfD agenda.

EESC: Juan Mendoza (ISCOD-UGT), Martin Siecker (FNV) and Paola Simonetti (TUDCN) spoke at an EESC conference on promoting the involvement of economic and social actors in development cooperation.

b) Trade Union Partnerships, state of play and results

TUDEP implementation and Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA)

Diego López González explained the need to revise and adapt the TUDEP form, and to simplify questions to make model easier. The tool is well developed a tool, but it has to be adapted to different contexts. Even if it seems a complex tool, TUDCN observed that it is understandable and can be useful. TUDCN saw that some organisations included TUDEP in their evaluation process. Our intention is to facilitate the use of the tool, and make it implementable.

On OCA, Diego López González said there are up to 10 OCA evaluation tools. We need to have a common position to take into account TUs needs. In January 2015 TUDCN started a mapping of methods used by TUs. AT March 2015 OCA seminar we worked on specific capabilities TUs need to develop. We’ll continue our work through the WG, in view of having common guidelines to OCA.

More information on TUDEP: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/tu-development-effectiveness-profile>

Reference documents of the OCA Seminar 2015: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/documents-from-the-meeting-15909>

c) News from TUDCN members: tendencies and evolutions in national and regional development strategies concerning trade unions as development actors (April 2014-April 2015)

Jan Dereymaeker explained the rationale behind the questionnaire distributed to TUDCN members ahead of the GM. Replies suggest that:

- Changes in ODA and is affecting policies. Private sector is the winner in most cases. Quite a lot of interesting comments.
- Receiving fewer resources is one of the main concerns. There is quite a push for organisations to follow geographical choices imposed by donors.
- On policy setters or decision makers that influence most national governments, OECD comes first, and then comes the EU.
- On involvement in changes by governments and capacity to influence them, 100% of respondents are not consulted systematically on a co-decision basis. If consulted, it is not binding, even when the policy affects the whole of civil society.
- On priorities for the future, the issue of private sector in development seems a primary concern. Also, to make TUDCN results more visible and put them on the map.

Regions

Giulia Massobrio presented TUCA's accomplishments during 2014-2015. Available here: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pptx/giulia_rscd_tuca_plan_de_accion_2014_y_2015-16.pptx

Haridasan Parayarikkal presented ITUC-AP's accomplishments during 2014-2015. A TUDCN workshop was held in Asia. In the AP region, most activities are undertaken by single members. A series of activities on informal economy were organised. An annual leadership training programme is being organised, in cooperation with the Japanese cooperation agency.

Nadia Shabana presented the accomplishments of ATUC during 2014-2015. The first ATUC congress took place in October 2014. The structure was made after demand to have a body in the wake of Arab spring. TUs are moving forward. A Women's network was established before the ATUC. The Arab Youth Network was also established, to share challenges and success stories, and to raise awareness on decent work among the youth. ATUC is active through social media and newsletters.

Kwabena Nyarko Otoo (TUC, Ghana) presented the activities of ITUC-Africa during 2014-2015. He denounced the jobless growth the continent is experiencing. He advocated to a diversification in the economy.

National organisations

Bandula Kothalawala (TUC, UK) said the UK is now required to give 0.7% of GNI to ODA. Developing nations should be able to push their developing priorities regardless of ODA flow.

Rosiver Pavan (CUT, Brazil) expressed her concern about the new government in Brazil, which dilutes the influence of TUs. This is a bad model that could be exported to all Latin America.

6. TUDCN internal evaluation survey: presentation for the group work

Working groups: assessing on progress and results

Diego López González introduced the issues to be discussed at working groups:

1. TUDCN priorities: were/are they relevant/adequate? What did we miss?
2. What is the value added in participating in the TUDCN?
3. TUDCN results: have we achieved what we expected? Any lost opportunities?
4. Which of the communication tools and information used/disseminated by the TUDCN were the most useful for you?

Reports in plenary from the working groups

The English-speaking group 2 was generally satisfied with TUDCN priorities and activities.

The English-speaking group 1 was generally satisfied, but expressed concerns in the articulation between TUDCN and ITUC. They appreciated the communication efforts.

The Spanish and Portuguese-speaking group said there has been a qualitative leap in terms of advocacy on post-2015 and FfD, also on training, visibility and TUDEP. They suggested more coordination with ITUC departments.

The French-speaking group suggested more integration between the work of TUDCN and ITUC. They said private sector in development is a priority. They considered that document translation could be improved.

Conclusions of Day 1

There have been a qualitative step forward of TUDCN and its work in this last period:

- The TUDCN is a good platform for sharing information and policy discussion
- We have had major advocacy gains (such as the recognition of trade unions in GPEDC; the Trade Union/DAC Forum and in our work) and influenced EU and UN positions
- We have able to consolidate or initiate regional development network and action plans
- There is a recognition of the work we are doing on tools such as the TUDEP and OCA
- There has been an improvement of communication tools, particularly two-pagers, TUDCN Newsletter and social media

We have taken note on the things to improve with respect to communication tools (translations, webpage, numbering of documents, etc.) and other elements and note the absence of GUFs, which were invited. We will continue encouraging their participation and we hope the members of the network can also contribute to this.

Day 2 – Tuesday 28 April 2015

PART II: FUTURE PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

In the chair: Alison Tate, Director, Economic and Social Policy and External Relations, ITUC.

Barbara Adams, Chair, Global Policy Forum, presented *“Current trends and future scenarios on the post 2015 and Financing for Development processes: CSO engagement strategies”*.

She said that 2015 brings critical opportunities to change the future, from July’s Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa to the UN Summit on the SDGs and the 21st Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris in December. She said this is a challenging agenda, but improving lives and protecting the planet deserve no less. Actors must work together to generate the needed financial resources and achieve the transformative vision that the SDGs entail.

She explained the proliferation of UN-forged partnerships between public and private sector, as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance development goals. The opening to the corporate sector has become a UN system-wide phenomenon, generating hundreds of diverse “partnerships”. As a result there is an expansive list of corporations that have established partnerships and/or alliances with or through the United Nations Office for Partnerships.

She said, as stated by the World Bank, that public-private partnerships (PPPs) are not a panacea. They are generally considered to be more expensive than purely public financing due to higher private sector borrowing costs and high transaction costs in general. As pointed out by the OECD, PPPs are unlikely to succeed in less developed countries.

She explained that, in countries where regulatory capacity remains weak, the private sector takes on an enlarged role, with little control by the government over the quality and costs of the services being provided. The vital role of government in protecting the public interest is diminished.

Her full presentation is available here: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/presentation_barbara_adams_tudcn

7. Next steps and TU messages on Sustainable Development Goals (+2015) and Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Conference)

Matt Simonds presented the challenges for TUs in the coming months: trying to build some kind of accountability. We need to find ways of mutually reinforce these two processes. TUDCN will organise a seminar in New York with the co-facilitators of the two processes. After this there will be three or four weeks of negotiations. There is more at stake in Addis right now than in the Post-2015 agenda which is pretty much set already. Post-2015: the outstanding issues are follow-up and review and indicators. FfD is where we should be putting our efforts right now.

This was followed by Q&A and debate which touched upon civil society alliances, fiscal issues, due diligence, and the role of the public sector.

Conclusions on Post-2015 and FfD

- We have to articulate the specific objectives of FfD and post-2015 agendas based on our trade union position
- We need to work on the indicators of the SDGs
- Following the adoption of the post-2015 framework, we will look into our engagement in the implementation

8. Advocacy strategic work streams 2015-2016

In the chair: Giulia Massobrio, Policy Officer on Development Cooperation and Project Management, Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (CSA-TUCA)

Social Dialogue for Development partnerships

Jan Dereymaeker explained the link between social dialogue and development process. Without social dialogue we fuel neoliberal policies. Accountability should happen at enterprise and also at national level. We should be able to debate on how to convert economies through social dialogue, including transition from the informal to the formal sector. We have outlined main questions to research on key points to take a more informed action.

The reference document for this discussion is available here: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/docx/social_dialogue_in_development_florence.docx

Conclusions on social dialogue

- Social dialogue in development and private sector in development have been endorsed as strategic work streams in the work of TUDCN for the coming year.
- A study will be undertaken which will help to clarify the concerns raised on the relevance of social dialogue in development

Private sector accountability in development

Paola Simonetti took stock from the Barcelona seminar. The TU policy position provided important input at UN, OECD-DAC and EU level, for TUs to contribute to current debates. The study with Eurodad supported by the CPDE maps business accountability and standards, and set specific criteria for donors when it comes to support private sector in development. Compliance should be linked to eligibility. May sound obvious, but it's not always the case.

TUCA is involved in a similar project. Hopefully other regions will replicate this. Advocacy at UN and OECD-DAC level is a priority. Some avenue could be to follow up the research oriented path, e.g. an annual reporting on decent work in development cooperation policies.

The TUDCN-Eurodad study “Business Accountability FOR Development” is available here: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/business-accountability-for-development>

Conclusions on private sector accountability in development

- Research and advocacy activities will be undertaken. In this process national organisations, in developed and developing countries, should take the lead.
- The possibility to produce a permanent monitoring report on compliance of private sector in relation to the SDGs and decent work (working title: *TUDCN Watch*) will be taken into consideration.

Other priorities

Farida Bena (CPDE) talked about the GPEDC and CPDE. GPEDC deals with the link with Busan and FfD. CPDE is monitoring developments since Busan, together with TUs. It is not about traditional development assistance, but not-so-tangible forms of development cooperation. Now we need a monitoring system. In Busan it was agreed that all constituencies would come together, with 10 global indicators. The 2nd monitoring round is about to start. Brian Tomlinson is doing a great job, but CSOs need to help him with evidence to argue with before the providers. CPDE has a WG helping Bryan, and Diego is the contact point.

Matt Simonds added that TUs, as part of steering committee, presented a candidate for the monitoring process, the KU Leuven researcher Huib Huyse. The proposal was not accepted.

Working groups and plenary discussion

The Spanish and Portuguese-speaking working group agreed on the proposed priorities. They proposed to make visible the resistance of most civil society on the increasing role of the private sector in development. They said the achievements of the post-2015 agenda should be monitored.

English-speaking working group 1 agreed with the proposed priorities, advocated to continue the messaging on Private Sector and asked for more focus efforts on South-South Cooperation.

The French-speaking working group said research on private sector in development should not be the end. TUs should advocate ending PPPs with companies that operate from fiscal paradises.

The English-speaking working group 2 said social dialogue is missing in the development cooperation discourse – the labour movement has the opportunity to address core areas of the SDG agenda with Social Dialogue. Development cooperation aimed at the private sector must integrate social dialogue.

Jan Dereymaeker said the purpose was to give ideas. This is of course an ILO agenda but the rationale for including it in these spaces is that the ILO is not present in the specific discussion on development policies and strategies so we have to introduce ILO work in these agendas – we have to activate the ILO to get involved – we do not want to create a new institution or platform but instead a lobby group to influence the different arenas.

Paola Simonetti added that TUDCN needs to demonstrate empirical evidence through case studies to formulate arguments on private sector in development.

Conclusions on other priorities

- *GPEDC/CPDE*: We will continue the follow-up on the indicators relevant to TUs, which are those on enabling environment and private sector.
- *South-South and triangular cooperation*: We need to advance our work on this issue supporting Africa-Latin America cooperation in this field
- We will ensure coherence within the trade union movement (on issues such as environment and climate change, trade and supply chains, TU rights and fiscal justice)
- Discussions need to be undertaken on ODA and total official support for development (TOSD): TUDCN will look into TU messages on this issue. We will update our work on donor support systems for trade unions.

9. Partnerships and joint initiatives strategic work streams 2015-2016

In the chair: Sigrid Bergfeldt, LO-TCO, Sweden

TUDEP implementation promotion

Diego López González recalled the principles of trade development effectiveness: Democratic ownership, Autonomy, Partnership, Transparency, Accountability, Coherence, Inclusiveness and equality, and Sustainability. TUDEP is a tool to implement these principles – used to assess and improve trade union organizations. There has been so far a positive feedback on the tool, so we want to expand its use – we will organize a seminar in Latin America on this and try to make it more visible.

Maresa Le Roux (CGSLB-ACLVB, Belgium) gave a presentation on cooperation efforts with COSATU (South Africa) using the TUDEP tool. She said it is important to identify gaps between organizations. It becomes a tool outside of the logical framework and is a benefit for both parties. Time allocation is crucial. Her presentation is available here:

http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pptx/presentatie_cgslb_tudep_april_2015.pptx

Veerle Lens (ACV-CSC, Belgium) presented a report on the use of the TUDEP tool. She said that, when using the tool, it is helpful to tailor some of the language to the organizations using it.

Organisational Capacity Assessment (OCA)

Diego López González said that, when looking at organizational capacity in organizing, we should be looking at what kinds of organizations and looking at sustainability. There are at least 10 different tools to assess organizational capacity. It is important to identify a list of key capacities in organizations. A list of ways to carry out these assessments is based somewhat on certain principles, contexts and models and that integrates the TUDEP

The OCA work plan is available here: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/docx/oca_work_plan.docx

Diego López González presented the questions for working groups:

On TUDEP implementation and promotion:

- Are organisations using TUDEP? If not, why not?
- How can we promote the implementation of the TU Development Effectiveness Principles and the use of TUDEP?

On Organisational Capacity Assessment:

- Are there additional elements that we should take into account when assessing the capacities of TU organisations?

Working groups and plenary discussion

The Spanish and Portuguese-speaking group said organisations don't use TUDEP because they don't have the capacity to use it. The tool should also take into account the changing political, economic and social context.

English-speaking groups 1 and 2 said 5 out of 15 organisations are using the tool. It helps to bringing coherence and promotes closeness between receiving and supporting organisations.

The French-speaking group said TUDEP is not used very frequently. On OCA, sustainability is connected to the ability of the organization to remain autonomous from a national point of view.

Conclusions on partnerships

- On OCA: We will continue our work to produce guidelines by the end of 2015.
- On TUDEP: we will continue promoting it as a tool to improve the quality of trade union cooperation in international solidarity programmes. We will take into account the comments on TUDEP for the evaluation of the tool in 2016.

Presentation of results of TUDCN members' survey

In the chair: Gemma Arpaia, ISCOS, Italy

Jan Dereymaeker presented the results of the survey to TUDCN members. Most contributions pointed out the worrying trend of budget cuts, which results in decreasing ODA. As ODA evolves, so does the role of TUs as development actors. Respondents also demanded more visible results, more work on private sector in development, more partnership work and increased focus on trade agreements, external debt and South-South cooperation.

10. National and regional donor support concerning trade unions as development actors – challenges and future actions

Diego López González and Joan Lanfranco presented the upcoming TUDCN brochure on TUs as actors of development education and awareness raising. Trade unions are not understood by others as key actors in the area of development education. We need to explain our network and explore different options for the development education programs, like few programs but bigger programs. Joan explained the brochure we will use to show how trade unions are working in this area.

Conclusions on Development education and awareness raising (DEAR)

- We will work on strengthening the role of trade unions as DEAR actors by raising the visibility of trade unions in DEAR. In this sense a brochure on trade unions as DEAR actors will be elaborated and published and we will follow-up on other opportunities to participate in DEAR spaces, especially at EU level

Day 3 – Wednesday 29 April 2015

PART III: ACTION PLAN 2015-2016

In the chair: Wellington Chibebe, Deputy General Secretary, ITUC

11. Regional development networks future perspectives

TUCA/CSA

Giulia Massobrio presented the planning ahead of TUCA's congress in the area of cooperation. Main objectives are research, capacity building and dissemination.

ITUC-Africa

Kwabena Nyarko Otoo (TUC, Ghana) denounced the jobless growth the continent is experiencing. He advocated to a diversification in the economy.

ITUC-AP

Paola Simonetti informs there is no report from Asia. ITUC-AP will have a more regular work plan from now on. The idea is that ITUC-AP will adopt a resolution at their congress that endorses the work of TUDCN.

Working Group on EU development policies and advocacy

Paola Simonetti informed that TUDCN will take part at 3 panel discussions in the framework of the European Development Days 2015, one of them co-organised by TUDCN and the ILO Brussels office on Social Dialogue for Development (ILO). Paola will speak at a panel discussion on multi-stakeholder partnership, organised by the CPDE.

TUDCN is working with the European Parliament to promote Decent Work worldwide. We are planning to meet with the new European Commissioner for Development, to promote social dialogue in EU development policy.

12. TUDCN communication strategy

Joan Lanfranco presented a revamped TUDCN communication strategy for 2015-2016. He outlined the principles regarding the TUDCN communication and outreach: Information, Networking, Solidarity, Transparency, Multilingualism, Dissemination, Planning, Mainstreaming, Coordination, Accountability and evaluation, and Inclusion.

He outlined the different channels of communication of TUDCN and suggested some improvements. He also suggested creating a new Working Group on Communications and Outreach.

13. Work Plan 2015-2016

Paola Simonetti presented the work plan and planned activities of TUDCN for 2015-2016. See slides 125-128 of GM general presentation: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/tudcn_gm_general_presentation_final.pdf.

She mentioned that TUDCN will apply to the next call for proposals of the EU to grant continuity to the TUDCN and regional development networks.

Evaluation of the GM and final conclusions

In the chair: Yaovi Beleki (Adrien) Akouete, ITUC Africa

Gemma Arpaia (ISCOS, Italy) and Giulia Massobrio (TUCA, Brazil) read the final conclusions of the TUDCN 2015 General Meeting (the full text can be found on Annex II to this report):

Post-2015

- We have to articulate the specific objectives of FfD and post-2015 agendas based on our trade union position

- We need to work on the indicators of the SDGs
- Following the adoption of the post-2015 framework, we will look into our engagement in the implementation

Social dialogue in development cooperation

- Social dialogue in development and private sector in development have been endorsed as strategic work streams in the work of TUDCN for the coming year.
- A study will be undertaken which will help to clarify the concerns raised on the relevance of social dialogue in development

Private sector in development

- Research and advocacy activities will be undertaken. In this process national organisations, in developed and developing countries, should take the lead.
- The possibility to produce a permanent monitoring report on compliance of private sector in relation to the SDGs and decent work (working title: *TUDCN Watch*) will be taken into account

GPEDC/CPDE

- We will continue the follow-up on the indicators relevant to TUs, which are those on enabling environment and private sector.

South-South and triangular cooperation

- We need to advance our work on this issue supporting Africa-Latin America cooperation in this field

Development education and awareness raising (DEAR)

- We will work on strengthening the role of trade unions as DEAR actors by raising the visibility of trade unions in DEAR. In this sense a brochure on trade unions as DEAR actors will be elaborated and published and we will follow-up on other opportunities to participate in DEAR spaces, especially at EU level

Partnerships

- On OCA: We will continue our work to produce guidelines by the end of 2015
- On TUDEP: we will continue promoting it as a tool to improve the quality of trade union cooperation in international solidarity programmes. We will take into account the comments on TUDEP for the evaluation of the tool in 2016.

Other priorities

- We will ensure coherence within the trade union movement (on issues such as environment and climate change, trade and supply chains, TU rights and fiscal justice)
- Discussions need to be undertaken on ODA and total official support for development (TOSD): TUDCN will look into TU messages on this issue. We will update our work on donor support systems for trade unions.

Eduard Parsaulian Marpaung (KSBSI, Indonesia) read a TUDCN statement of solidarity with the people of Nepal, hit by an earthquake on 25 April 2015 (Annex V). The statement is available here: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/tudcn_statement_of_solidarity_with_the_people_of_nepal.pdf

End of the TUDCN General Meeting

Annex I: Input from group work

Day 1 – evaluation of TUDCN 2014-2015

Questions for discussion:

1. TUDCN priorities: were/are they relevant/adequate? What did we miss?
2. What is the value added in participating in the TUDCN?
3. TUDCN results: have we achieved what we expected? Any lost opportunities?
4. Which of the communication tools and information used/disseminated by the TUDCN were the most useful for you?

English-speaking group 2:

- 1: priorities are relevant, though South-South cooperation is missing, as well as advocacy at national level and development education. There should be more focus on organising and more attendance from southern countries.
- 2: engagement with other actors and among ourselves.
- 3: decent work is an ongoing process; there is still room for progress, particularly on social dialogue.
- 4: the newsletter is interesting; we welcome the new Facebook page and the fact that policy papers are published on website.

English-speaking group 1:

- 1: Priorities are relevant, but we have some concerns: constitution of TUDCN and relation with ITUC. TUDCN is a network that needs to be strengthened at regional and country level. GUFs lack of participation was also noted.
- 2: The value added is the sharing of good practice on international development agenda, capacity building, and TUDEP.
- 3: GUFs should participate more.
- 4: The project database is important; it's good to have an up to date website, Twitter and Facebook. Contributions should be submitted regularly, and the newsletter should include a link in PDF; we welcome the great summarised versions of position papers.

Spanish and Portuguese-speaking group:

- 1 & 2: there has been a qualitative leap in terms of advocacy on post-2015 and FfD, also on training, visibility and TUDEP.
- 3: the UN is far from national organisations. TUDCN is absent from the COP21 agenda. There should be more work on human rights. There is no coordination with ITUC departments. Regions should be further supported. There should be more communication between the national, regional and global dimensions.
- 4: TUDCN could take the example of distance education undertaken by TUCA.

French-speaking group:

- 1: there should be more integration between the work of TUDCN and ITUC.
- 2: TUDCN material is useful for national campaigns. Developing countries should be better represented. Shouldn't donors take part in TUDCN meetings?
- 3: position papers should include explanations and instructions. Private sector in development is a priority.
- 4: all documents on post-2015 and the study on Business Accountability FOR Development were very useful. TUDEP also very useful, especially for newcomers. Newsletter allows a quick update on TUDCN activities. 3 critiques: the delay and quality of translations, the need to number position papers, and to indicate if it's public or internal document.

Day 2 – Strategy and priorities 2015-2016

Spanish and Portuguese-speaking working group:

- On social dialogue: social dialogue action plan with national governments; develop actions on social dialogue in the context of post-2015; strengthen tripartite bodies in the national arena. Advocate in social dialogue arenas such as the EESC.
- Private sector in development: follow-up of trade agreements; work with GUFs on case studies; create civil society alliances; make visible the resistance of most civil society on the increasing role of the private sector in development.
- GPEDC: create structures for more participation of civil society in development cooperation.
- Other priorities: transformative cooperation vs palliative cooperation; articulate more with ITUC departments; monitor the achievements of the post-2015 agenda.

English-speaking working group 1:

- The role of ILO and the promotion of the social dialogue
- Focusing on national and regional promotion of the social dialogue
- L20 should play a role and we should work within the L20
- Continue our messaging on Private Sector
- Need to focus efforts on South-South Cooperation

French-speaking working group:

- Create an advocacy platform on the importance of social dialogue in development. GUFs should be more involved. Pressure for Convention 144 to be ratified.
- On private sector in development: research should not be the end. TUs should advocate ending PPPs with companies that operate from fiscal paradises. Investment banks should condition loans to the respect of ILO standards. There should be a binding treaty for MNEs. The private sector as donor or beneficiary? Be more attentive at ILO dynamics on private investment.
- CPDE: make a link between the ILO and the procedure for definition of indicators.
- Other priorities: free trade agreements, the environment, human rights and work with national institutions.

English-speaking working group 2:

- GM agenda was too packed.
- Social dialogue is missing in development cooperation discourse – opportunity to have labour movement to address core areas of the SDG agenda with Social Dialogue.
- Pursue social dialogue in all countries – but clarity about how we understand social dialogue in the international space – what actors, what objectives, in what arenas. Favourable to a paper on the issue.
- Private Sector: Business accountability instruments are there but they are not effective i.e. MNEs national contact points – what about an international dispute settlement for business accountability / international treaty on multinationals in the context of Human Rights Council.
- National action plans on business and human rights – define due diligence, create remedy mechanisms and develop sanction mechanisms.
- In particular for developing countries National regulation and enforcement capacity must be strengthened.
- Development cooperation aimed at the private sector must integrate social dialogue (trademark Africa is an example).
- Other priorities: Trade Agreements – SDGs being taken in a separate universe; do we need to look more closely at Social Protection.

Day 2 – OCA and TUDEP

Questions for working groups:

On TUDEP implementation and promotion:

- Are organisations using TUDEP? If not, why not?
- How can we promote the implementation of the TU Development Effectiveness Principles and the use of TUDEP?

On Organisational Capacity Assessment:

- Are there additional elements that we should take into account when assessing the capacities of TU organisations?

Spanish and Portuguese-speaking group:

- Analysis focused on lack of use, rather than on the tool's effectiveness
- Organisations don't use TUDEP because they don't have the capacity to use it
- More pressure on recipients and those who execute programs to use the tool
- Too bureaucratic and not so result-oriented
- It should also take into account the changing political, economic and social context.

English-speaking groups 1 and 2:

- 5 out of 15 organisations are using the tool. It helps to bring coherence and promotes closeness between receiving and supporting organisations.

- Those who don't use, it is because the tool is not known, because of being an extra requirement/burden pushed onto partner organisations in the South, or because it is a TU tool (not used when other types of partners).
- Use opportunities of regional meetings for promotion and training meetings.
- Issues listed in OCA seem comprehensive. Is it a relevant tool for the informal economy? (Need for models, policies, basic capacities, partnerships first).

French-speaking group:

- TUDEP not used very frequently due to: structure of funding, it's not requested by donors themselves, mostly small projects – not huge or multiannual projects so TUDEP tool becomes heavy, ownership issue can be somewhat superficial, tough to recommend how to increase the visibility of the tool.
- OCA: sustainability is connected to organization to remain autonomous from a national point of view. Sustainability requires financial autonomy.

Annex II: Conclusions of the General Meeting



Conclusions of TUDCN-RSCD 2015 General Meeting *Centro Studi Nazionale CISL, Florence, 27-29 April 2014*

ON THE EVALUATION OF THE TUDCN

There have been a qualitative step forward of TUDCN and its work in this last period:

- The TUDCN is a good platform for sharing information and policy discussion
- We have had major advocacy gains (such as the recognition of trade unions in GPEDC; the Trade Union/DAC Forum and in our work) and influenced EU and UN positions.
- We have able to consolidate or initiate regional development network and action plans.
- There is a recognition of the work we are doing on tools such as the TUDEP and OCA
- There has been an improvement of communication tools, particularly two-pagers, TUDCN Newsletter and social media.

We have taken note on the things to improve with respect to communication tools (translations, webpage, numbering of documents, etc.) and other elements and note the absence of GUFs, which were invited. We will continue encouraging their participation and we hope the members of the network can also contribute to this.

WITH RESPECT TO WORK STREAMS AND PRIORITIES

Post-2015

- We have to articulate the specific objectives of FfD and post-2015 agendas based on our trade union position
- We need to work on the indicators of the SDGs
- Following the adoption of the post-2015 framework, we will look into our engagement in the implementation

Social dialogue in development cooperation

- Social dialogue in development and private sector in development have been endorsed as strategic work streams in the work of TUDCN for the coming year.
- A study will be undertaken which will help to clarify the concerns raised on the relevance of social dialogue in development

Private sector in development

- Research and advocacy activities will be undertaken. In this process national organisations, in developed and developing countries, should take the lead.
- The possibility to produce a permanent monitoring report on compliance of private sector in relation to the SDGs and decent work (working title: *TUDCN Watch*) will be taken into account

GPEDC/CPDE

- We will continue the follow-up on the indicators relevant to TUs, which are those on enabling environment and private sector.

South-South and triangular cooperation

- We need to advance our work on this issue supporting Africa-Latin America cooperation in this field

Development education and awareness raising (DEAR)

- We will work on strengthening the role of trade unions as DEAR actors by raising the visibility of trade unions in DEAR. In this sense a brochure on trade unions as DEAR actors will be elaborated and published and we will follow-up on other opportunities to participate in DEAR spaces, especially at EU level

Partnerships

- On OCA: We will continue our work to produce guidelines by the end of 2015
- On TUDEP: we will continue promoting it as a tool to improve the quality of trade union cooperation in international solidarity programmes. We will take into account the comments on TUDEP for the evaluation of the tool in 2016.

Other priorities

- We will ensure coherence within the trade union movement (on issues such as environment and climate change, trade and supply chains, TU rights and fiscal justice)
- Discussions need to be undertaken on ODA and total official support for development (TOSD): TUDCN will look into TU messages on this issue. We will update our work on donor support systems for trade unions.

Annex III: TUDCN General Meeting attendance list

Country	Organisation	First name	Last name
Europe			
ETUC	ETUC	Daniele	Basso
Spain	ISCOD	Juan	Mendoza
Spain	ELA	Saioa	Igeregi
Spain	USO-SOTERMUN	Santiago	González
Spain	CC.OO	Felix Antonio	Ovejero Torres
Italy	CGIL	Sergio	Bassoli
Italy	ISCOS	Gemma	Arpaia
Netherlands	FNV Mondiaal	Dian	Van Unen
Netherlands	CNV Internationaal	Marie José	Alting von Geusau
UK	TUC	Bandula	Kothalawala
Belgium	CGSLB-ACLVB	Maresa	Le Roux
Belgium	ACV-CSC	Veerle	Lens
Belgium	FGTB	Thierry	Aerts
Denmark	LO/FTF	Mads	Bugge Madsen
Denmark	LO/FTF	Ida	Dalgaard Steffensen
France	CGT	Marie-Christine	Naillod
France	CFDT	Frédérique	Lellouche
France	FO	Marjorie	Alexandre
Cyprus	DEOK	Mary	Vasilakka
Germany	DGB Bildungswerk BUND	Jens	Martens
Germany	FES	Mirko	Herberg
Norway	LO	Nina	MJØBERG
Norway	LO	Toril	Grini
Sweden	LO-TCO	Sigrid	Bergfeldt
Finland	SASK	Janne	Ronkainen
North America			
Canada	CSN	Nathalie	Guay
USA	Solidarity Center	Fay	Lyle

Africa			
Togo	ITUC Africa	Yaovi Beleki	Akouete
Ghana	TUC	Kwabena	Nyarko Otoo
Tanzania	EATUC	Caroline Khamati	Mugala
Botswana	SATUCC	Paliani	Chinguwo
South Africa	COSATU	Zanele	Matebula
RDC	UNTC	Modeste Amédée	Ndongal Nsibu
Latin America			
Brazil	TUCA	Giulia	Massobrio
Chile	CUT	Etiel Dagoberto	Moraga Contreras
Argentina	CGT	Maria del Carmen	González
Brazil	CUT	Rosiver	Pavan
Costa Rica	CMTC	Jhonatan	Monge
Asia			
Singapore	ITUC-AP	Haridasan	Parayarikkal
Indonesia	KSPI	Bambang	Surjono
Indonesia	KSBSI	Eduard	Parsaulian Marpaung
MENA			
Jordan	ATUC	Nadia	Shabana
Speakers			
	UNCTAD	Richard	Kozul-Wright
	Global Policy Forum	Barbara	Adams
	CPDE	Farida	Tchaitchian Bena

Annex V: TUDCN statement of solidarity with the people of Nepal and with ITUC Nepalese affiliates



TUDCN statement of solidarity with the people of Nepal and with ITUC Nepalese affiliates

- The Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN), gathered in Florence for its 2015 General Meeting, expresses its support and solidarity with the people of Nepal and with the ITUC Nepalese affiliate, after the appalling earthquake on Saturday 25 April 2015.
- More than 5.000 people lost their lives and the death toll could go beyond 10.000.
- TUDCN calls for quick and effective relief of those affected, and for the international community to assist Nepal in its reconstruction.
- TUDCN encourages trade unions worldwide to help with their available means to the reconstruction of Nepal and the assistance to the Nepalese people.

Florence, 29 April 2015