

TUDCN MEETING REPORT, 20-22 JUNE 2011

*All referred documents sent before and presented during the meeting can be found in the TUDCN website <http://www.ituc-csi.org/+tudcn-documents-+.html>

Monday 20 June 2011

1. Introduction (Jaap Wiene):

- International Labour Conference (1-17 June 2011): progress on the level of social protection, convention on domestic work, election of new Governing Body (one titular seat for China).
- Developments in the MENA Region have taken priority interest. The office in Amman has been strengthened and coordinates action in the region.
- The ITUC General Council approved the "Trade Union principles and Guidelines on Development Effectiveness".
- The work plan of DEVCO has been approved as part of the ITUC action plan 2011-2014
- The TUDCN 2 project has been approved by the European Commission.

2. Agenda Presentation

- The agenda was approved

3. Report of the previous meeting

- The report of the previous meeting was approved.

4. Short presentation on the Network project 2008-2010 (Powerpoint presentation)

- The presentation covered the last two years of the project. The final report of will be made available to everyone. A copy of the presentation will be made available on the website.

5. News from the developments in the regions, at national level, in the GUFs

- **Nordic-Dutch Meeting (4-6 May 2011, Stockholm)** (N. Larrea): this was a meeting between the Nordic-Dutch Unions and the GUFs. Working areas are: harmonisation of templates for reports and applications; methodologies; country coordination, and improvement on transparency, efficiency and accountability. They are planning trainings on outcome mapping at regional level in 2012. A special session took place on evolutions in MENA and the solidarity support in the region. SIDA was actively involved in those discussions.
- **Developments from the Regions, Organisations, GUF:**
 - **ITUC-AP** (P. Haridasan): two important meetings on development in this Region this year will be the Open Forum Global Assembly in Cambodia (27-30 June, 2011) and

the IV High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan (29 November – 1 December, 2011).

- **TUCA** (K. Jakobsen): the upcoming important meetings will be the Executive Board of TUCA (Rio de Janeiro 28-30 June 2011), and the Network on Development Cooperation Meeting/Solidarity Support Organisations in Panama (24-27 August 2011).
 - **ITUC-AF** (A. Akouete): Second Congress of ITUC Africa in Nigeria (24-26 October 2011): Trade Unions Actors in Development.
 - **PERC**: the PERC region is excused for this meeting due to a Manifestation of the ETUC in Luxembourg on the day of the meeting. The ETUC had his Congress in May.
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- **Haiti** (I. Hoferlin): Road Map finalised, and activities carried out on: legal support to trade union cases; expertise to support the reform of labour code; trainings on FoA and trade union rights. Anthony Jones works in Haiti for the ITUC and TUCA Twelve trade unions meet regularly in “Le Secteur syndicale”. Anthony Jones will however leave Haiti in September. A call for his replacement will be launched.
 - **European Union – ACP** (I. Hoferlin): In light of the upcoming meeting of the Social and Economic Committees EU-ACP in July, I. Hoferlin explains the new mandate of the ACP follow-Up Committee.

Conclusion :

- Increased cohesion between ITUC and the Regional Organisations on Development Cooperation is noted, but need further strengthening.

6 Progress report by the Facilitation Steering Group (FSG)

- See detailed activity report TUDCN January-May 2011 on website

7 LDC Conference in Istanbul and UNDCF Meeting in Bamako (May 2011) (See detailed report on website)

The meeting in Bamako was a preliminary meeting of the LDC conference in Istanbul.

- The Istanbul conference was the IVth UN Conference, held 10 years after the Brussels LDC conference that made public the LDC Brussels Programme of Action. The Istanbul Conference evaluated the implementation of that Programme. Generally speaking the outcomes were disappointing. The number of LDC (Least Developed Countries) has increased (from 28 to 48 today).

The ITUC was highly visible as part of the civil society. A full report is available on the website.

8. Trade Union Development Effectiveness Working Group

- The Working Group made a first draft of a self-assessment and discussion tool for the implementation of the Principles and Guidelines on development effectiveness.

- The tool is based on a questionnaire to be answered by project partners. The answers lead to an organisational profile with respect to the Principles, and should be the basis for further discussion amongst partners.

The initiative received a positive reaction. The launch of the tool is scheduled for early November.

9 Aid Effectiveness Agenda

Paris Declaration and Trade Union position paper:

- The document “Towards a comprehensive paradigm for decent work and development effectiveness” will be used as guideline for the IV High Level Forum on Aid Eff in Busan.

Better Aid and the Working Party:

- Next meeting with Better Aid at the Working Party (4-7 July; and October, 2011, Paris).

Open Forum on CSO Effectiveness and Enabling Environment:

- The 2nd Global Assembly of the Open Forum will take place in Cambodia (26-30 June). The international framework on CSOs development effectiveness will be finalised. A trade union delegation will be present.

Tuesday 21 June 2011

10 Busan, the aid/development Effectiveness: the way forward

(see Document : “Towards a Comprehensive Paradigm for Decent Work and Development Effectiveness” on the web site)

- a. **Private Sector in Development:** The trade unions need to find a point of engagement with employers on this topic. The TUDCN will make a synthesis of documents of the ILO and OECD on this topic for the meeting in Busan. The following elements emerged from the discussion in working groups:
- This topic is not new, public private partnerships already exists for a long time
 - It is important to focus on what is necessary for the developing countries. Many investments are for profit, without real intention for local development. Role of the state and privatisation of essential public services.
 - It is important to make a distinction between non-profit and profit as the transparency at the profit-sector is far less than the non-profit sector. Need to clarify the language: private sector in this context makes reference to companies. Do we discuss about the local companies or the companies / multinationals that are investing. And there are also international private foundations.
 - It is important to study the impact of multinational companies and the impact of China
 - It is necessary to develop standards, mechanisms to have some control on the development activities of the profit sector
 - When the local enterprises in the south are supported by the north, trade unions should be involved.

- Emerging economies in the south
 - Corporate Social Responsibility based on ILO labour standards
 - The private sector should not replace the public services provided by the state
 - The private sector should be supportive of “country systems”
- b. **Preparation for HLF Busan:** the registration of the participants has been finalised.
The HLForum will begin in Busan on the 29th of November and end the 1st of December. The 26th of November, a General TUDCN Conference will be held in Busan. From the 27th until the 28th of November, a number of civil society events will be held. During the Busan Conference, parallel activities will take place for the non-registered participants.
- c. **Regional Processes and Policy Working Group (CIVICUS World Assembly):** Will be held in Montreal (9-12 September, 2011). The meeting of the TUDCN policy and advocacy working group will be focused on elaborating a trade union position on the role of private sector and development.

11 EU-Policies

Mr. Angelo Baglio, head of the Non-State Actors unit addressed the meeting highlighting the results of the Structured Dialogue and commenting on current evolutions:

Structured Dialogue:

- How to cooperate in a better way and to make development more effective. Funding is important, but also mobilising to promote development.
- Structured dialogue is about dialogue, not about negotiation. The working method is very participative.
- Civil Society organisations in the south are requesting help to be able to dialogue with their Governments on development. The role of northern CSOs should be seen through these lenses.
- Main themes / conclusions, shared by all participants of the Structured dialogue.
 1. “Environnement propice aux CSO (« *enabling environment* »)
 2. Multi-actor approach which is more horizontal and local/territorial.
 3. Coordination amongst CSOs: Role of local governments as promoter, to take leadership, to structure territorial development
 4. Aid effectiveness via: democratic ownership, alignment, accountability and right of initiative...
 5. Accountability of governments and actors in civil society, towards their constituency
 6. Right of initiative of the different actors.
 7. Response to the needs. Need to differentiate tools for providing financial support (tool grid).
- In Budapest, recommendations were made for the European Commission: the EC will work to give these recommendations the necessary answers.
- Notion of “membership based”: the EC in the future will support the setting up of CSOs platforms at national and regional level, enhancing the representation criteria within civil society.

- How will NGOs transform the structured dialogue recommendations into reality...?
- Changes in global cooperation need attention: some countries prefer the aid of other countries instead of the EU, from China mainly.
- The issue of representation: parliaments, governments aren't focussed that much in development cooperation as the civil society.
- It is important to keep in mind that the governments are sitting in the driving seat (see Paris Declaration).
- The EC is trying to gather more knowledge of the organisations through mapping.
- Fewer funds available for aid on international level.
- The EC will organise a follow up seminar in October to organise a practical session on the implementation of the Structured dialogue outcomes.

12 Capacity Development Activities (see Power point on the web site)

- Elements from the working groups on how capacity development can be improved in reality.
 - Progress measurement is crucial: from the baseline information (number of members, etc.), follow-up activities to results. We need to work on impact indicators (ILO indicators).
 - Capacity building has improved over the last year but it will be a never ending story, there will always be challenges and new generations to form.
 - CB to be based on the needs of the beneficiaries, on a diagnosis
 - Privilege sustainability, preference for training of trainers. Strive for impact, even after the program ended.
 - Spread the principles and guidelines on trade union development effectiveness
 - Need to keep each other informed
 - Need to reflect on the trends in development cooperation, and to adapt to the local context.
- Improved background information on countries, regions, trade unions is important.
- The need for CB is never ending, for organising capacities, to provide membership services.
- More regional approach is necessary, regional seminars. Global international seminars have to capitalize on results from regional level.

Recommendations from workshops: organise the regional seminars in the first place and then the international one

13 Self-financing of development actions in trade unions (FNV)

- New funding resources need to be found.
 - Agreements with affiliated unions to provision 0,7% of the affiliation fees for international development cooperation.
 - Introduce in Collective Agreements the proposal to support workers (in the same branch) in developing countries.
 - Special campaigning to specific unions

- Requests for aid around humanitarian emergencies works quite well
- Broad fundraising: donors (who could be members or indirect members) can fund by region, issue or in general
- Request for government funding reoriented to support for Health & Safety and not for pure Trade Union work. Or for very specific targets : specific region, specific issue, or “nurses for nurses”, “metalworkers for metalworkers”.

14 Trade Union Support Systems – First Findings (Power point presentation on line)

- The test-presentation was considered useful. We will elaborate further the analysis. A seminar will be organised to discuss the results.

Wednesday 22 June 2011

15 Planning of activities 2011

- Facilitation & Steering Group (Brussels) : 20 June
- Trade Union Development Effectiveness Working Group : 22 June
- Open Forum Global Assembly (Cambodia) : 28-30 June
- Working Party Aid Effectiveness (Paris) : 5-10 July
 - Matt gives information from Better Aid on how the meeting(s) in Paris are important in the preparation towards Busan.
- Civicus Global Assembly + TUDCN Policy & Advocacy Group, Montréal : 9-12 Sept
- Regional meetings with TUSO :
 - Americas (Panama) : end of August (22-26)
 - Asia : problem of conflicting dates (13-15)
 - Africa : 3-4 November
- 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Busan (Korea), 29 Nov – 1 December
- General Meeting TUDCN, Florence, 12-14 December

16 Activity Planning 2012

- The RIO+20 meeting : introduction on the key issues by Anabella Rosemberg :
 - 1) green economy and
 - 2) governance of sustainable development.
 Alison Tate suggests to get involved in the preparation of RIO+20 on regional level (meetings scheduled September – December 2011). Need to start practical preparations quickly, due to reduced availability of hotel rooms.
- The international seminar on Capacity Development will not be held this year. In 2012, regional seminars will be held. This needs to be worked out with the regions.
- Seminar with the ILO on the impact indicators, Decent Work indicators.
- Seminar on Methodology with the new member states

- South-south cooperation seminar. Trade unions can learn from this cooperation. We therefore need to increase the interaction with the southern regions.
- There will be 2 general TUDCN Meetings. The place of the General TUDCN next meeting can be linked to the EU presidency (Denmark and/or Cyprus).

17 Evaluation

- Like: what can you take home/you learned from this TUDCN General meeting
 - Information sharing and new knowledge
 - Practical tools and principles to strengthen trade union methods for relevance and own internal analysis
 - Working groups to discuss specific issues were very useful
 - Capacity building and development: what works and what doesn't
 - Development cooperation information for further use
 - Discussion on private sector in development as food for thought and discussions at home
 - Thorough activity report
 - The network opportunity – learning on global and regional developments to take this back at national level
 - Learned the policies of national governments concerning funding for unions (this was motivating)
- Dislike: things that can be improved
 - We need more info on who is doing what and where
 - The importance to more efficient coordination of funding and methodology
 - There should be more people from the South in general meetings. This would enrich the discussions.
 - Are we a decision making network or do we just exchange information? What is the functionality of the network?
 - Discussions are unfocused. Sometimes, important points of discussions are lost in the information.
 - How to prepare RIO+20 in the regions?
 - The agenda needs to be improved. Working in a more concrete way on some topics. More preparatory work of the TUDCN for the general meetings is needed.
 - Members need to be able to prepare their inputs to participate more efficiency to discussions.

ITUC/DCE/JVM
 Brussels, 24/06/2011
 VM/8/7/2011