



ITUC proposal on EU Structured Dialogue follow up

Brussels, April 2011

ITUC supports the setup of a permanent/multi-stakeholder dialogue on Development policies, according to the recommendations of the SD process. Our evaluation on the SD process is positive as it has facilitated the creation of a common CSOs setting, together with EU institutions representatives, to debate around EU development policies and practices. We think that the momentum should not be lost, and the opportunity should be taken to consolidate this modality and to possibly strengthen the scope of the dialogue.

We would like to suggest the following modalities to put in place the SD, which, according to us, can be implemented at different levels:

1. High Level events at global level (i.e. Busan, Rio + 20, future of MDGs etc.), where the EU is meant to take policy positions.

Modality: jointly identifying crucial HL events year by year; Ad hoc dialogues with DEV COMMISSIONER and/or other higher level decision makers, possibly facilitated by Unit D2 (charged of relations with CSOs).

2. Key policy themes, linked to EC strategic communications: for example, Agenda for change, CSOs in development, Social protection etc..

Modality: jointly identifying most important COM year by year, and planning a series of meetings (in due time) to allow genuine debates and effective multi-stakeholder policy inputs. Competent units within DEVCO should be involved, hopefully with the facilitation/support of unit D2.

3. SD recommendations: for example on Enabling Environment for CSOs/MSH dialogue

Modality: organising meetings focused on CSOs EE. We would suggest organising the meetings at regional level, with regional/national representatives. This would allow more concreteness to the debate on EE, linked to actual county situations. This would also allow the presence of more national CSOs representatives, EU delegations representatives, as well as, of national governmental representatives (when feasible).

We also point out that this dialogue mechanisms are not meant to replace in any way the existing and working bilateral dialogue. On the other hand, realising a planning in advance to implement joint multi-stakeholders dialogue mechanisms will allow better transparency in the whole decision making process. These mechanisms are meant indeed to be complementary to the decision making processes which are run at institutional level, according to the treaties.