



## IDA 16 AND AID EFFECTIVENESS

### PRINCIPAL STATEMENT and CALL TO ACTION: IDA 16 Replenishment as an Opportunity to Increase Aid Effectiveness and Achieve the MDGs by 2015

#### Background

The *Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness* and the *Accra Agenda for Action* seek to reform the way development aid is delivered and managed in order to strengthen its impact and effectiveness and increase the likelihood that the world will meet the 2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The *Paris Declaration* is an agreement between more than 100 donor and recipient (partner) governments as well as international organizations, including the World Bank, the largest provider of multilateral development funds.

The World Bank is at the forefront of operationalizing the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action principles. Throughout the implementation of International Development Association round 15 (IDA15) funds, the Bank has strengthened country ownership and donor use of country systems; built more effective and inclusive partnerships; delivered and accounted for development results; and shaped the aid effectiveness agenda as a whole.

In addition, the World Bank has consistently reported on its progress towards implementing the *Paris Declaration* principles and set out corresponding action plans in order to deepen its commitment to aid effectiveness, demonstrating dedication to increased accountability in development cooperation.

The *Paris Declaration* and the *Accra Agenda for Action* call on parliamentarians to play a stronger role in monitoring the policies and funds related to development cooperation. IDA 16 replenishment presents law makers with important new responsibilities and an opportunity to show their support for the World Bank's commitment to aid effectiveness while holding it accountable to the principles outlined in the *Paris Declaration*.

#### ***Principal Statement and Call to Action***

*The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB), European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA) and their respective members would like to recognize the World Bank for its commitment to the aid effectiveness and accountability agenda during IDA 15 fund implementation and evaluation.*

*PNoWB and AWEPA regard the 16<sup>th</sup> replenishment of IDA funding as an important opportunity to further strengthen and deepen the World Bank's leadership in aid harmonisation, alignment, and managing for results as the 2015 deadline for meeting the MDGs approaches.*

***Building on this, we call on donor governments to fully replenish IDA funds by meeting or exceeding IDA15 funding levels. Simultaneously, we call on the World Bank to deepen its commitment to aid effectiveness in four key areas and through increased engagement with both donor and partner country parliamentarians during IDA 16 fund replenishment, implementation, monitoring and reporting.***

## Four Priority Areas

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PNoWB, AWEPA and their members have identified four issue areas for the World Bank to concentrate on throughout IDA 16, each is reflective of the Principles outlined in the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action and include a focus on 1) increased country ownership; 2) strengthening country statistical/results measurement systems; 3) adding of a peer-review dimension to Country Assistance Strategy progress reports; and 4) leading by example in health, nutrition and population programs.

These priorities are also based on findings and recommendations emerging from the IDA15 mid-term review (World Bank, 2009) and the most recent Survey on Monitoring the Paris Declaration (OECD, 2008). Following each recommendation, suggestions are included on how to involve Members of Parliament as key partners in the aid reform agenda.

### ONE: Increase Country Ownership

To increase country ownership of the development process, local institutions and capacities must be *sustainably* strengthened. PNoWB and AWEPA call on World Bank country offices to strengthen partnerships with, and emphasize capacity building and skills-transfer to, local institutions in all Country Assistance Strategies (CAS). We also call for a special focus to be placed on capacity building dimensions in CAS progress reports. This recommendation is in line with findings emerging from OECD's 2008 Survey on Monitoring the Paris Declaration that state the need "to develop a better understanding of how technical co-operation can more effectively contribute to the capacity development efforts of partner countries," and the need for donors "to widen their support for capacity building in parliaments, supreme auditing institutions, and civil society organisations."

Engaging parliamentarians: The World Bank and its country offices can include local MPs in discussions on the importance of building sustainable, in-country capacity in partner countries and the detrimental effects of using parallel systems. In addition, the Bank can support the inclusion of parliamentarians in all phases of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and CAS development processes.

### TWO: Strengthen Country Statistical and Results Measurement Systems

To fully implement the aid effectiveness principles laid out in the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action, partner country systems must have full capacity to measure the impact of aid and other government spending. PNoWB and AWEPA call on the World Bank to continue to support countries in strengthening their statistical and results measurement capacity, as it did during IDA 15 when countries developed National Strategies for the Development of Statistics. Specifically, we call on the World Bank to focus on statistical capacity building in countries' civil registration systems. Without civil registration systems – which record births and deaths – collecting more complex development statistics is nearly impossible.

We also encourage World Bank country offices, in full partnership with the country's government, to take the lead in assembling local stakeholders to discuss common, country-wide monitoring and evaluation systems for use by all donors and implementing agencies active in the country.

Engaging parliamentarians: World Bank country offices can facilitate workshops for local MPs to discuss issues related to information literacy as well as the importance of statistical capacity and measuring results. The country office can work with MPs on a needs assessment for use in capacity-building programs and to outline how best to strengthen in-country statistical processes for result-focused development.

### THREE: Add a Peer-Review Dimension to CAS Progress Reports

PNoWB and AWEPA call on World Bank country offices to add a layer of accountability to their focus on implementing the Paris Declaration and the AAA principles by adding an aid effectiveness peer-review mechanism to the Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) progress report process. These peer reviews can be conducted internally to the World Bank by inviting another World Bank country office --perhaps in the same region-- to apply specific aid effectiveness review criteria to an office's CAS, or externally, by inviting partner organizations to conduct the peer review.

Engaging parliamentarians: World Bank country offices can extend the peer-review concept to include parliamentarians, or present the findings of the peer review at a special parliamentary session. The World Bank can also use the peer review process as an opportunity to highlight the important role that program evaluation plays at the Bank by presenting a meta-analysis of peer-review findings at the fourth OECD High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011.

### FOUR: Lead by example in Health, Nutrition and Population Programs

IDA 16 presents the World Bank with the opportunity to lead by example in increasing aid accountability and effectiveness while addressing its own program challenges in areas key to meeting the MDGs, such as health, nutrition and population. A 2009 report by the World Bank's Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) offers a number of recommendations on ways the Bank can strengthen its health, nutrition and population (HNP) programming. In response to these recommendations, the World Bank's Management Team laid out a management response, but stopped short of detailing a measurable action plan. PNoWB and AWEPA call on the World Bank to create a measurable action plan to address the IEG's findings and recommendations, and to commit to implementing and monitoring this plan throughout IDA 16 to ensure that the World Bank is leading by example in increasing aid effectiveness and mutual accountability in its HNP programs.

Engaging parliamentarians: World Bank country offices can present country case study findings from World Bank's IEG 2009 Health, Nutrition and Population evaluation to local MPs and engage in a discussion on how to collaboratively address the emerging issues, monitor progress, and increase links between parliament and civil society/constituents in this area.

#### Reference Documents

- AWEPA, 2009, *Safeguarding the Interests of the People: Parliaments and Aid Effectiveness*.  
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World Bank, 2009, *IDA 15 Mid-term Review Implementation Report*.  
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World Bank/IEG, 2009, *Improving Effectiveness and Outcomes for the Poor in Health, Nutrition, and Population*.

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