



Briefing Note to NGO ECOSOC Reform 2007

The outcome of the 2005 World Summit has entrusted the Economic and Social Council with a number of new functions, including the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR), the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) and the Global Policy Dialogue. In its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006, the General Assembly reaffirmed the role vested in the Economic and Social Council as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development, as well as for implementation of the international development goals agreed at the major UN conferences and summit, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The Annual Ministerial Review (AMR): will evaluate progress in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. Its objective is to serve as a catalyst for implementation by: (i) generating synergies among the existing review mechanism; (ii) providing a high-level platform for an exchange of lessons learned and examples of best practices in implementing the internationally agreed development goals; (iii) promoting the engagement of a broad range of stakeholders at the global, regional and national levels, including from the private sector and civil society; (iv) engaging countries for making voluntary national presentations; and (v) involving regional commissions and relevant regional organizations.

AMR activities:

- (a) Provide capacity-building support to developing and least developed countries in preparing for the national voluntary reviews which is an option of the AMR
- (b) Hold regional initiatives to take into account regional dimensions of the progress made towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs
- (c) Raise awareness and disseminate knowledge about the AMR
- (d) Hold side events during the AMR, including the **AMR Innovation Fair**

Outcome of the meeting: role of the NGOs in the above activities

The Development Cooperation Forum (DCF): will have three core tasks, namely: (i) to review trends in international development cooperation, including strategies, policies and financing; (ii) to promote greater coherence among the development activities of different development partners; and (iii) to strengthen the link between the normative and operational work of the United Nations.

DCF activities:

- (a) Support cutting edge analysis of development cooperation issues and trends
- (b) Hold regional consultations to root policy discussions in an understanding of regional trends and dynamics
- (c) Raise awareness and disseminate knowledge about the DCF
- (d) Support networking for DCF preparations and follow-up through establishment of an Advisory Committee to provide strategic guidance and mobilize participation of key development cooperation actors
- (e) Hold side events during the DCF, including the DCF Symposium/Fair

Outcome of the meeting: role of the NGOs in the above activities