

4 April 2014

Dear Sir or Madam,

Accelerating progress on transparency at the GPEDC High Level Meeting, Mexico 15-16 April 2014

We, the undersigned agencies, networks and organisations, ask for your support in ensuring that the development community accelerates and deepens commitments on transparency at the first High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation in Mexico on 15-16 April 2014.

We believe accelerated efforts to make development cooperation more transparent, as achieved through the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), are needed urgently. This is achievable in Mexico.

Since the last global meeting in Busan in 2011, more information on development cooperation is being published than ever before. This reflects the time-bound transparency commitments that development providers made in Busan on a common open standard and to publish information on development spending by 2015, including their implementation plans by 2012.¹

Publish What You Fund's 2013 Aid Transparency Index² shows that a small number of development providers have made good progress in making their cooperation more transparent. This demonstrates that political commitment can be translated into effective implementation. However, overall progress has been modest and uneven. Most information on development cooperation is still not published in a comprehensive, timely and standardised way. **The vast majority of development providers are currently off-track to meet their Busan commitment of full implementation by 2015.**³

The meeting in Mexico is an opportunity to review and kick-start efforts to ensure governments' transparency commitments on development cooperation are met by 2015. The year 2015 will also mark the culmination of several international development processes, which include a new climate change deal and post-2015 priorities for sustainable development. **Transparency of all resource flows is an essential step towards harnessing those resources for poverty eradication and for monitoring progress towards post-2015 goals.** In this respect, we call on you to:

- Accelerate efforts to publish timely, comprehensive and forward-looking data on all development flows in accordance with IATI and improve the quality of published data;
- Ensure information on development cooperation is compatible and aligned with partner countries' budgets and systems;
- Support specific actions to improve access, dissemination and use of this data by all stakeholders at country level.

Your support in ensuring that the gains made on transparency at the global level translate into real benefits at country level is vital. Let us ensure that the Global Partnership truly delivers on its transparency commitments for all development stakeholders.

Yours sincerely,

¹ Which includes the Creditor Reporting System and the Forward Spending Survey of the OECD-DAC, and the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) – http://www.oecd.org/dac/aid-architecture/Common%20Standard%20Communications%20Note_ENG.pdf

² <http://ati.publishwhatyoufund.org/>

³ To-date 22 official development providers have submitted implementation schedules outlining their plans to publish all elements of the common standard. The number of official government donors currently publishing to the standard is just 14, with an additional 8 international organisations including the UN and Multilateral Development Banks also publishing.

Publish What You Fund – Dr David Hall-Matthews, Managing Director
Access Info Europe – Helen Darbshire, Executive Director
Africa Freedom of Information Centre – Gilbert Sendugwa, Coordinator & Head of Secretariat
AidData – Brad Parks and Nancy McGuire Choi, Co-Executive Directors
Article 19 – Thomas Hughes, Executive Director
Bond – Ben Jackson, Chief Executive
CAFOD - Graham Gordon, Head of Policy
Canadian Council for International Co-operation – Julia Sánchez, President and CEO
Christian Aid – Alison Kelly, Head of Policy
CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation – Dr Danny Sriskandarajah, Secretary General
Council for International Development – Dr Wren Green, Director
DATA Uruguay – Fabrizio Scrollini, Chairman
Development Gateway – Jean-Louis Sarbib, Chief Executive Officer
Development Initiatives – Harpinder Collacott, Director of Engagement and Impact
Dóchas - Hans Zomer, Director
Fundar, Centro de Análisis e Investigación – Miguel Pulido, Executive Director
Global Integrity – Nathaniel Heller, Executive Director
Global Movement for Budget Transparency Accountability and Participation (BTAP) – Rocio Moreno, Global BTAP Coordinator
Integrity Action – Fredrik Galtung, Chief Executive
Integrity Watch Afghanistan – Yama Torabi, Director
InterAction – Sam Worthington, President and CEO
International Budget Partnership – Warren Krafchik, Director
Iraqi Journalists Rights Defense Association (IJRDA) – Ibrahim Al-Sragey, Director
Kepa – Timo Lappalainen, Executive Director
Obong Denis Udo-Inyang Foundation – Emem Udo-Inyang, Director
ODA Watch – Tae Joo LEE, Chair
Open Knowledge Foundation – Rufus Pollock, Founder and President
OpenTheGovernment – Patrice McDermott, Executive Director
Oxfam America
Plan International USA – Tessie San Martin, President/CEO
Slovak NGDO Platform – Lenka Nemcová, Executive Secretary
Sunlight Foundation – Ellen Miller, Founder and Director
Transparency International – Cobus de Swardt, Managing Director
Twaweza East Africa – Rakesh Rajani, Head
UK Aid Network – Amy Dodd, Coordinator
Ushahidi – Juliana Rotich, Executive Director
World Vision International – Beris Gwynne, Partnership Leader for Global Accountability
Youth Association for Development (YAD) – Atta ul Haq Khaderzai, Chief Executive Officer



