

recommendations was proposed, emphasizing on consolidated TWG leadership, accountability, effective policy dialogue and implementation, revising of structures, particularly brokering role of CDC in strengthening these sector performances.

Discussion and validation of TWG Performance Review findings

Comments and suggestions were made by DP Representatives on the draft findings of TWG Performance Review as following:

- **Ms. Setsuko** suggested that the result-based framework would be a critical part of TWG work that would contribute to national development goals by promoting policy dialogues in TWG structure. Transparent information sharing to improve linkages between planning, budgeting and ODA would be the key in addressing the remaining challenges. In this respect, partnership and accountability barriers could be reduced the regular meetings of GDCC and CDCF or proposed CDF.
- **Ms. Fiona Ramsey, Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation and Lead DP facilitator (LDPs)** raised a significant point relating to the rationalization of current TWG compositions that was linked to reduce the number of TWGs. This would allow for complementary cross-sector dialogue to move forward.
- **Ms. Kristina Kühnel**, Head of SIDA Development Cooperation and Co-Lead Facilitator of P&H-TWG welcomed the study and validated its overall findings. She pointed out that improved accountability for performance (through GDCC and CDCF) and the identification of cross-cutting issues should be taken into account, especially in the reform areas. Additionally, policy dialogue could be improved, both at the TWGs as well as by introducing policy-seminars on cross-cutting issues that should be conducted, particularly on applying the main governance reforms. Concrete actions were required and the support of the P&H TWG was useful.
- Representative of FAO also emphasized the significance of 'clustering TWGs' in current development situation.
- UNICEF representative indicated the need to prioritise activity through an annual workplan and a clear agenda and issues of TWG secretariat functions and performance, where the incentives and turnover of secretariats remained critical challenges.
- Representatives from Health-TWG, SIDA, FAO and UNESCO shared good lessons on their TWG progress work respectively in Health, PAR, AW and Education sectors, including the need to identify and agree appropriate issue for focus, policy dialogue and monitoring based on a sector strategy, a TWG Terms of Reference and an annual workplan linked to JMIs and other M+E frameworks. Sub-groups have also been useful where adopted.
- DPs requested clarification on the timing of the next GDCC and CDCF meetings.

The Chair responded that the rationale for the TWG Performance Review exercise was to improve TWG performance rather than reduction in the number of TWGs. He acknowledged that, the principles relating to accountability and transparency, policy dialogues, cross-cutting issues would be considered as part of the next TWG performance strengthening exercise especially in the revised ToRs. The issue of policy-seminars on cross-cutting issues was also acknowledged. He emphasized the need for each TWG to reflect on its own performance and needs as a first step towards agreeing actions to improve. He also mentioned that, in order to improve TWG performance and avoid adding new layers to the existing structure, TWG secretariats should be an integral part of the host ministry or agency, such as the planning or international cooperation department. All TWGs were encouraged to provide additional comments or suggestions to the draft report by 10th February 2015. The report

planned to be finalized by the end of March 2015 before the next P&H-TWG meeting planned to be conducted in the second quarter of 2015.

Review on the next-step exercise on strengthening TWG performance

Strengthening exercise was presented by P&H-TWG Secretariat highlighting the background, procedures and timeline of the TWG strengthening exercise. TWGs are requested to review the findings of TWG Performance Review and consider measures based on major criteria – including composition, size, capacity, roles and functions, dialogues and CDC support. TWGs would also be requested to complete this review and submit to CDC by the end of March 2015, when the results of the review would also be discussed in the next P&H-TWG meeting. CDC will review the Guideline on the Role and Functioning of the TWGs.

Ms Kristina Kuhnel, SIDA and the P&H TWG co-lead facilitator, concluded that the TWG strengthening exercise is a good first step and expected an expanded role of TWG P&H in the implementation of the TWG Review recommendations. An important step for strengthened accountability would be the organization of a regular GDCC and the organization of policy seminars on cross-cutting governance reforms would contribute to strengthening policy dialogue.

Mr. Eric Sidgwick, Country Director of ADB, addressed some concerns regarding the accountability line for the endorsement of the next-step review.

In response, **the Chair** demonstrated that individual ministry, to whom each TWG is accountable for, would be responsible for the endorsement of this Performance Review. CDC would provide technical support to this exercise upon requests from TWGs.

Other Business

SIDA representative informed that DPs had formulated an informal donor group on anti-corruption which conducted two meetings recently, and the next meeting would be held on February 18th 2015. Sweden and USAID are co-lead facilitators. RGC agencies, e.g. National Audit Authority or MEF, will also be invited by DPs. Transparency International Cambodia and internal audit function of major spending agencies would be invited to attend this third meeting. The Chair noted that DPs can organize informal groups to discuss any matter they feel to be important.

Closing remarks

The Chair, thanked participants for their inputs and supports in the Review Exercise. He also emphasized that strengthened partnership would be a continued agenda to attain development results.

The meeting was adjourned around 5.30 pm in a very cooperative and successful manner.

Prepared by the Secretariat of P&H TWG