



THE ARUSHA STATEMENT OF THE OECD/DAC JOINT VENTURE ON PROCUREMENT

ARUSHA, THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

MAY 5 – 7, 2008

“TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS DECLARATION PRINCIPLES BY BUILDING RELIABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT SYSTEMS”

We, the representatives of partner countries and of multilateral and bilateral development organizations (“donors”) who are the members of the OECD/DAC Joint Venture on Procurement, **resolve** that this Statement of the Joint Venture on Procurement seeks:

- To state our vision of the challenges facing our work program over the next three years and beyond,
 - To ask Ministers and Heads of Organizations to re-commit their ongoing support to procurement reforms and
 - To recognize that the use of acceptable country procurement systems promotes their development.
1. **Recognizing** that improvements in the quality and performance of public procurement systems will produce significant benefits towards more efficient use of public resources, will facilitate ownership, alignment and harmonisation thus increasing aid effectiveness,
 2. **Recalling** the Johannesburg Declaration of December, 2004, produced by the World Bank – OECD/DAC Round Table on Strengthening Procurement Capacity, whereby donors and participating partner countries agreed to implement programs to strengthen the quality and performance of procurement systems with the goal of making them more effective, transparent and accountable,
 3. **Recalling** the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness of March 2005, in which Ministers and Heads of Organizations:
 - i. **Committed** to work together to “*establish mutually agreed frameworks that provide reliable assessments of performance, transparency and accountability of country systems*”;

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- ii. **Agreed** that *“capacity development is the responsibility of partner countries with donors playing a supporting role”* and
 - iii. **Committed** to provide *“sufficient resources to support and sustain medium and long-term procurement reforms and capacity development”*.
4. **Recognising** the progress achieved by the Joint Venture on Procurement in :
- i. Developing the common benchmarking tool: *“the Methodology for Assessment of National Procurement Systems”*,
 - ii. Piloting the Methodology and preparing a Compendium of Lessons Learned and
 - iii. Partner countries applying the Methodology to develop strategic capacity development action plans to implement procurement reforms.
5. **We Propose** that concerted action during the remaining three years of the implementation of the Paris Declaration focuses on:
- i. Completing the piloting of the OECD-DAC Methodology for Assessment of National Procurement Systems and producing an improved version of the Methodology based on lessons learned and input from users and stakeholders;
 - ii. Promoting the use of the results of assessments to identify areas of needed improvement and the development and implementation of capacity development strategies and action plans;
 - iii. Promoting the implementation of the revised Methodology into partner governments’ National Development Plans as a tool to assess procurement practices;
 - iv. Developing a community of practice between partner countries and donors;
 - v. In collaboration with other parts of the OECD such as the Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate and with other interested donors and partner countries, develop and test strategies and tools to combat fraud and corruption related to public procurement;
 - vi. Continue to learn, discuss and understand better the issues and challenges involved in the use of country procurement systems and the fostering of alignment. It is expected that partner countries’ procurement systems will improve and, as they improve, these systems will be progressively utilized by donors when deemed to meet the framework of criteria and procedures agreed between each donor and its partner countries.
 - vii. In collaboration with the Joint Venture on Public Financial Management (PFM), move towards a coordinated approach to assess and strengthen country systems in order to promote good governance and ownership in the public sector.

With the support of Ministers and Heads of Organizations, we will continue to work collaboratively within a growing, welcoming membership structure as equal members of an international forum focused on learning and sharing best procurement practices. We will continue to engage private sector representative associations and civil society organizations from both donor and partner countries.



Countries and Organizations Which Endorse this Statement

Partner and Donor Countries :

1. Afghanistan
2. Albania
3. Australia
4. Belgium
5. Burundi
6. Cameroun
7. Canada
8. Cape Verde
9. Chile
10. Colombia
11. Denmark
12. Ethiopia
13. Finland
14. Germany
15. Ghana
16. Ireland
17. Japan
18. Kenya
19. Lao PDR
20. Madagascar
21. Malawi
22. Netherlands
23. Mongolia
24. Mozambique
25. Niger
26. Norway
27. Papua-New Guinea
28. Paraguay
29. Philippines
30. RDC
31. Rwanda
32. Sénégal
33. South Africa
34. Tanzania
35. United Kingdom
36. Uganda
37. USA
38. Vietnam
39. Zambia

Development Partner Organizations

1. African Development Bank
2. European Commission
3. IADB
4. OECD/DAC
5. UNDP
6. World Bank