



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: Restricted
30 September 2015

Original: English

Trade and Development Board

Sixty-second executive session

Geneva, 9–11 December 2015

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Other business

Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

Application from the European Network on Debt and Development

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

Executive summary

The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the European Network on Debt and Development requesting its inclusion by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board.

Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Board, the Organization may be classified in the general category under the provisions of paragraph 12 (a) of Board decision 43 (VII).

The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its sixty-second executive session.

Information concerning the Organization is annexed to this note.



Annex

European Network on Debt and Development: Background information

History

1. The European Network on Debt and Development was founded in 1989 as a network of European civil society organizations working towards debt relief advocacy and a reform of the international financial architecture. Its campaigns in the 1990s helped create the political environment that made possible the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative.

2. The Network was one of the first civil society organizations that engaged in the United Nations Financing for Development process, and it continues to be very active. It has worked closely with UNCTAD, contributing for example to the Expert Working Group on Principles on Responsible Sovereign Lending and Borrowing, and more recently on debt workout mechanisms. The Network's current areas of work are official development assistance, private investments, debt and responsible financing, tax justice and capital flight.

Aims and objectives

3. The Network contributes to worldwide efforts to achieve fairness and equity, and improve economic strategies, policies and practices at the international level. Its principal areas of expertise are development financing, with a special focus on debt cancellation; the development of strategies aimed at eradicating poverty; and the development of economic and structural policies.

Membership

4. The Network boasts 46 member organizations in 20 European countries.¹

Structure

5. The Network's decision-making bodies are the General Assembly and the Board.

6. The General Assembly meets at least once a year in May or June to help determine the strategic direction and management of the Network. At that time members elect Board members and new member groups, approve financial reports and budgets, debate and approve strategic plans. The most recent General Assembly was held in Copenhagen in May 2015; the next one will take place in Brussels in May or June 2016.

¹ Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. A complete list of member organizations is available at <http://www.eurodad.org/sites/members> (accessed 24 September 2015).

7. The Board, which generally meets four times a year, oversees the Organization's work. The Board consists of up to 11 members, drawn from member organizations. They are elected for three-year terms by the General Assembly. The Board provides guidance to staff on the substance, priorities and modalities of the Network's programme, as well as on financial management and reporting issues.

8. Current members of the Board are listed below:

- Kjetil Abildsnes, Norwegian Church Aid, Norway
- Éva Bördős, DemNet, Hungary
- Jenny Brown, Chair, Staff Liaison, Christian Aid, United Kingdom
- Jiří Čáslavka, Glopolis, Czech Republic
- Antonio Gambini, Treasurer, National Centre for Development Cooperation, Belgium
- Maren Hemsett, Debt Justice Network, Norway
- Mark Herkenrath, Swiss Alliance of Development Organizations (Alliance Sud), Switzerland
- Alison Holder, Oxfam Great Britain, United Kingdom
- Anna Thomas, ActionAid International, United Kingdom
- Wiert Wiertsema, Both Ends, Netherlands

Finance

9. Sources of revenue are member fees (14 per cent), grants from the European Commission (25 per cent), grants from Governments (11 per cent), grants from private foundations (29 per cent), grants from other networks of non-governmental organizations (20 per cent) and service fees (1 per cent). Membership contributions are set on a scale approved by the General Assembly, based on each member's advocacy budget.

10. The audited annual accounts of the Network for the year ended 31 December 2014 show a balance sheet total of €1,243,400.79 and a profit of €89,333.45.

European Network on Debt and Development: 2012, 2013 and 2014

(Euros)

<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>2014 (euros)</i>	<i>2013 (euros)</i>	<i>2012 (euros)</i>
Programme staff	729 966	566 905	346 815
Publications and outputs	75 158	81 664	103 635
Meetings and partner support	7 665	38 191	4 333
Travel	67 749	128 467	47 803
Projects supplies and services	80 524	58 021	31 541
Subtotal – operational expenses	961 061	873 248	534 127
Coordination and administrative staff	96 605	82 890	41 445
Equipment and running costs, and services	82 712	48 692	43 556
Subtotal – administrative expenses	181 077	201 431	79 986
Grand total	1 142 139	1 074 679	614 113

Relations with other international organizations

11. The European Network on Debt and Development does not have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

Publications

12. The Network issues a bi-weekly newsletter, Development Finance Watch, and several research reports and short briefing papers. All are posted on its website (www.eurodad.org).

Liaison

13. Liaison with UNCTAD will be carried out by:

Bodo Ellmers
Policy and Advocacy Manager
E-mail: bellmers@eurodad.org
Tel: 32 2 894 4651

Address

14. The headquarters are located at the following address:

European Network on Debt and Development
18–26, rue d'Edimbourg
1050 Ixelles, Belgium
Tel: 32 2 894 4640
Fax: 32 2 791 9809
E-mail: assistant@eurodad.org
www.eurodad.org

Language

15. The working languages are English, French and Spanish.
