

---

**Intergovernmental Group of  
Experts  
on  
Financing for Development  
Third Session**

**04-06 November**

**Secretariat Briefing**

**16 October 2019**

# Background

- **Nairobi Maafikiano § 100 (r)**
  - IGE FfD "as reflected in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and within the work of UNCTAD"
- **ToRs:**
  - work modalities to "maximise synergies between the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD and the follow-up process on financing for development in the United Nations system"
  - Policy focus on "core financial resource mobilization for sustainable development action areas in section A-C, E and F of chapter II of the AAAA"

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Session : International development co-operation and interrelated systemic issues

- The agreed guiding questions for the Third Session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development (As set by member states during 2<sup>nd</sup> IGE FfD):
  - a) How can the commitment by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to reverse recent declines in official development assistance be met and how can official development assistance play a more effective role in efforts to scale up development finance required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?
  - b) How can the quality and impact of both concessional and non-concessional official flows be improved and coordinated to support these efforts, including through innovative financing models and tools?**
  - c) What institutional, policy and regulatory changes at the international level will be helpful to ensure that global economic governance appropriately supports effective international development cooperation, to facilitate domestic public resource mobilization.

# **Programme: Monday 4 November (morning)**

**10:00-  
11:00**

## **Opening Plenary Session of the IGE**

**Welcoming Remarks**

**Presentation of the Note by the Secretariat**

**Item 1 – Election of officers**

**Item 2 – Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

**Item 3 – Financing for development: International Development Cooperation and interrelated systemic issues**

**11:00 -  
13:00**

## **Session 1: International development cooperation and financing for development – the current landscape and future challenges**

This session will set the stage by discussing the current landscape of international development cooperation as well as potential reform challenges arising in the current global economic environment

**Ministerial panel (Ministers, deputy ministers and ex-Minister)**

# Programme: Monday 4th (afternoon)

## 15:00 – 17:00 **Session 2: Official development assistance - Reform needs and policy options**

The AAAA stresses that “the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial” (§ 51), yet average ODA contributions have languished at around half of the committed levels for decades. Moreover, the core developmental impact of ODA is complicated by several factors, including a growing shift in the direction of **concessional loans** rather than grants; **double counting** of ODA funds, and ODA delivery systems which remain **misaligned** with national budgeting processes and hence domestic policy priorities. This session will discuss current proposals and frameworks to align ODA with other forms of development finance as well as new or changing reform needs and options in the light of recent ODA trends.

**Presentations by invited experts (10 mins each) & debate**

**17:00 – 18:00 Reserved for discussions on policy recommendations**

# Programme Tuesday 5th (morning)

<b>10:00-10:15</b>	<b>Chair of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development: Summary of day 1</b>
<b>10:15 - 13:00</b>	<b>Session 3: Blended finance – taming expectations with standards (AAAA § 54),</b> This session will discuss what can (or not) be expected from blended finance as a vehicle to deliver global development goals and possible implications for the reform of international development cooperation, including the ‘Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD)’ framework that aims to measure all external financial flows from traditional and emerging donors (public/private/blended, concessional/non-concessional) to support global public goods and sustainable development in developing countries.  <b>Presentations and debate</b>
<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>Reserved for discussions on policy recommendations</b>

# Programme: Tuesday 5th (afternoon)

**15:00 - 17:00** **Session 4: Environmental protection and climate change mitigation - challenges for international development cooperation**

The AAAA ( § § 59-65) calls for the strengthening of international development cooperation in areas relating to environmental protection, including climate change mitigation. An appropriate preventative response from the international community that goes beyond current reliance on a combination of short-term aid, longer-term conditionalities of fiscal consolidation and preventative self-insurance schemes against catastrophic risk is needed. This session will review existing response mechanisms, including overlaps with ODA delivery and explore avenues for the provision of predictable and stable disaster funding without narrow policy conditionalities.

**Presentations and debate**

**17:00-18:00**

**Reserved for discussions on policy recommendations**

# Programme: Wednesday 6th (morning)

<b>10:00-10:15</b>	<b>Chair of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development: Summary of day 1</b>
<b>10.15-13:00</b>	<b>Session 5: South-South cooperation and development finance</b> Discussions on promoting South-South cooperation (SSC) go back to the 1940s when developing countries explored South-South trade as a reliable mechanism to facilitate structural transformation in a context in which North-South trade suffered severe setbacks. There is general agreement that South-South cooperation can complement North-South development cooperation but not substitute it ( § 56). This session examines recent developments in South-South cooperation from the perspective of development financing and discusses future priorities for South-South as well as North-South and triangular development cooperation.  <b>Presentations and debate</b>
<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>	<b>Reserved for discussions on policy recommendations</b>



# Programme: Wednesday 6th (afternoon)

## 15:00 - 18:00 **Session 6: Closing Session**

**Item 3** – Draft agreed policy recommendations: final discussion

**Item 4** – Provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development  
Topics and guiding questions for the third session

**Item 5** – Adoption of the report of the third session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development

- Agreed policy recommendations
- Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development

# IGE FfD, 3rd Session: 4-6th November 2019

- Invited experts: Academia, civil society, private sector, government officials/representatives, other UN organisations and international organisations
  - **REMEMBER to register!**
  - IGE FfD website: UNCTAD Meetings → Expert Meetings → IGE FfD → 2019
    - Provisional Agenda
    - Background Paper
- <https://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=1901>.