



The **World Food Program** would like to thank the **Forum for 21st Century** for the initiative made to organize the conference on Global economic issues. At the same time, WFP expresses full support in finding solutions to problems presented by **Millennium Development Goals** as they require discussion on issues covering a wide area and seek to benefit all involved parties. WFP is grateful for having been granted a chance to contribute to these discussions and take part in the decision-making process.

WFP recognizes the problem with efficient cooperation among donating and receiving countries. However, WFP thinks that even a bigger issue in this matter lies within the receiving countries and their **political and civil instability**. In fact, reality shows that distribution of the assistance is sometimes not welcome in the target region due to internal **conflicts of interests**, even though it is crucially needed, as was mentioned in WFP's previous statement. On the other hand, WFP agrees that closer and more structured cooperation among donors, NGO's, and the receiving countries can improve the current status and even help to solve the problem of political instability and corruption in the long run. The unified cooperation would **benefit from synergies** gained from knowledge and expertise sharing of different participating parties.

The proposed **platform** will need to **unite** all existing aid **programs** under one umbrella, which involves creating a unified coordination of the **flow of financing**. As for WFP, this could be a challenge since WFP and other NGO's, as well, have already established systems of receiving and distributing financing from countries, corporations, NGO's, and private donors. If the unified platform were to be created, the current **financing system** would have to be **restructured** from scratch. WFP assumes that the vehicle for handling finances would be overseen by the **World Bank**. The question is if other assistance organizations are willing to **give up** their **control** over donations, let just one entity handle them, and focus exclusively on providing know-how and project activities within their own area of expertise.

As for bringing value to **PDA** by WFP, WFP would continue in its assistance activities and projects in target regions with a close cooperation with the participating parties of PDA. Also, WFP does not see a problem to work on the current and future projects coordinated within



proposed **clusters**. WFP's initiatives include **food programs** for different end groups, **hunger prevention**, **nutrition assistance**, **food logistics**, **procurement**, **food resource development and education**, **development of WFP's own intelligence and preparedness** for emergencies and crisis response, and **project cooperation** with other UN agencies. In order not to duplicate activities within the proposed platform, similar projects by individual agencies should be evaluated on the platform level, and only the most efficient and sophisticated ones should be chosen to proceed. Furthermore, WFP is willing to share its **knowledge database** and thus support synergies for other projects within the platform.

As for **managing natural resources** of the **recipient countries**, WFP does not support the idea of creating the **Committee for Environment and Sustainable Management of Scarce Natural Resources** under PDA. As mentioned in the previous statement, the problem is not the resource control of well-developed countries, but local ownership and management conflicts that cause increased ethnical and political instability. The sovereign nations that own scarce resources would not surrender their national wealth to be controlled by a committee that's composed of so many different parties.

Another issue in the current proposal is the existing assistance programs in advanced economies, such as **USAID**. In case of realization of the proposed platform, these existing programs would need to abandon their own initiatives, and instead, start **harmonizing** their **activities** within the platform. The question is if these nations are willing to give up their way of securing some degree of control in the target countries through providing development assistance, as was the case of the US assistance to Egypt before spring 2011. Development assistance represents a significant portion of the national budget of advanced economies (\$10.4 billion in 2010 in USAID) and are a part of their strategic foreign policies, thus these countries would have to rework their foreign policies to implement the new framework.

As for the proposal to impose membership conditions for the receiving countries, specifically, the condition to ensure political stability and prevention of corruption, such conditions might be counter-productive. If such requirements were to be imposed, then certain regions within war-torn zones or the regions with the greatest poverty levels might not get a chance for



development aid, since establishing control might not be within the power of the current ruling parties, e.g. **Palestine**. If that's the case, then it is the platform's responsibility to work on solutions through cooperation with other world organizations, such as **NATO**. In fact, WFP proposes that the members of PDA need to include representatives of all important world organizations, so that the expertise in the field of establishing political stability can be leveraged.

- Also, the request of the Forum addressed to the receiving countries to **specify** their own **needs** of development might be irrational, since the case might be that a poor country is not able to define exactly, or might not want to define where the assistance is needed the most. Therefore, **analyses** of critical regions by NGO's, such as WFP's existing intelligence initiatives, need to be leveraged and continuously developed, and it should be upon discretion of PDA to direct the assistance where it is needed. On the other hand, a condition for the receiving countries might be compliance with PDA's solutions and agreements.