Draft agenda for the 4ᵗʰ meeting of the international TOSSD Task Force

Brussels, Belgium
29-30 May 2018

Tuesday 29 May 2018

09:30   <u>Item 1</u>. **Introductory remarks by the co-Chairs**

1.   The co-Chairs will welcome the participants, provide information on some changes in the membership of the Task Force, present the draft agenda and the objectives of the meeting.

09:45   <u>Item 2</u>. **Tackling the second part of the TOSSD definition: Support to development enablers and response to global challenges at regional or global levels**

2.   The emerging Reporting Instructions note that *TOSSD will also provide insights about the extent to which the international community is financing development enablers and responding to global challenges [the Global Public Goods agenda] – essential for the implementation of the SDGs while not necessarily involving direct resource transfers to developing countries. This information is so far not systematically captured in international statistics on development finance.*

3.   The Addis Ababa Action Agenda commits countries to "pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors". Support to development enablers is primarily covered in the action areas of "**international trade as an engine for development**", "**systemic issues**" and "**science, technology, innovation and capacity-building**". Examples of actions include the promotion of:

- a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system;
- regional economic integration and interconnectivity;
- global economic governance;
- international coordination and policy coherence to enhance global financial and macroeconomic stability;
- international co-operation to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration with full respect for human rights;
- strengthening institutions to prevent all forms of violence, combat terrorism and crime, and end human trafficking and exploitation of persons;
- research and development of vaccines and medicines;

- scientific knowledge, research capacity and transfer of marine technology to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries.

4. In practice, such actions often take the form of contributions to international and regional organisations and programmes (e.g. World Trade Organisation, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, International Monetary Fund), contributions to various types of institutes of scientific research (public and private, national and international) and capacity building through technical assistance or through other knowledge-sharing and data-sharing via regional, interregional or global forums.

5. The Secretariat's paper maps out the landscape of support to development enablers, providing examples of funding by provider countries. Task Force members will be invited to comment on the mapping and discuss both the themes and the modalities of support. The objective of the session is to determine the scope of TOSSD Pillar 2 and its delineation with Pillar 1 in areas where support to development enablers involves direct support, thus cross-border flows, to developing countries.

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30   Item 2 cont.

12:30 Lunch

14:00   Item 3. Example of a development enabler at regional level: Peace and security

6. In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, nations have indicated that *"We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development."* In line with this ambition, a sustainable development goal has been established to *"Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels"* (SDG 16 and twelve related targets).

7. Peace and security is an example of a development enabler *"essential for the implementation of the SDGs while not necessarily involving direct resource transfers to developing countries"*. For example, peacekeeping operations contribute to regional stability; the promotion of disarmament (destruction of chemical weapons, Arms Trade Treaty, activities for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons) also contributes to peace worldwide.

8. There is a real gap of information on contributions to peace and security in the current international statistics on development as many of them are excluded from the scope of ODA. While recognising that the lack of development creates insecurity and the lack of security impedes development, ODA rules have remained strict and conservative in this area. ODA includes activities to promote the rule of law and prevent violent extremism, but excludes expenditures to combat terrorism or organised crime. In the area

of peacebuilding and peacekeeping, peacebuilding is eligible while only a share of peacekeeping expenditures is counted as ODA.

9.   The TOSSD measure, by promoting greater transparency about the full array of officially-supported finance in support of the 2030 Agenda, could capture these broader security expenditures and fill the existing data gap in statistics on sustainable development finance. Pillar 2 of TOSSD in particular could recognise the role of peace and security as an enabler of sustainable development by including expenditures for international co-operation in the areas of peacekeeping and combatting terrorism, but also promotion of rule of law at the international level for example through international tribunals for crimes of war.

10.   In this session Task Force members will be invited to discuss a variety of examples of peace and security related activities that are currently excluded from ODA but that could be considered under TOSSD, given their direct links with the targets attached to SDG 16 (e.g. combatting terrorism covered under SDG target 16.a). They will be invited to provide additional examples of multilateral or regional institutions and programmes that should be considered in this context, for inclusion under Pillar 2 or Pillar 1 depending on their cross-border nature. The objective of the discussion is to develop the narrative and determine the scope of TOSSD in the field of peace and security.

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00   **Item 4. Example of a development enabler at global level: Work of standard setting international organisations**

11.   The issues paper for this session will explore some of the work of international organisations with a mandate to establish norms and standards in their area of expertise. Such standard setting activities produce benefits at the global level and not only for developing countries. They are embedded in the 2030 Agenda and their work is referred to throughout the AAAA as a contributor to the enabling environment for sustainable development. Examples of standard setting organisations explicitly mentioned in the AAAA include the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organisation and various United Nations specialised agencies (e.g. International Labour Organisation).

12.   The Task Force members will be invited to examine examples of activities of standard setting organisations and how they could best be featured in TOSSD. The objective of the discussion is to identify the organisations that should be covered in Pillar 2 and what level of detail would be needed in the reporting on their standard setting activities.

17:30   **Wrap-up of Day 1**

18:00 Meeting adjourns

19:00 Informal get-together

Wednesday 30 May 2018

09:00   <u>Item 5</u>. **Highlights from TOSSD country pilot in Nigeria**

13.   Nigeria hosted a TOSSD country pilot in Abuja from 30 April to 11 May 2018. Its main objective was to identify how TOSSD can take into account the perspective and development financing information needs of Nigeria and to test the statistical methodology in the particular context of the country. More specifically, the pilot study aimed to i) refine and test the statistical methodology of TOSSD in terms of the nature of activities and instruments to be included in the framework and inform proposals for establishing TOSSD measurement boundaries (e.g. extent of coverage of short-term trade finance) as well as eligibility criteria (e.g. link with the SDGs); ii) provide estimates of TOSSD flows to Nigeria; and iii) carry out a light assessment of the capacity of Nigeria to access, collate, analyse and use data on external official finance in support of sustainable development. The report on the study is being drafted and will be shared with the Task Force in due course.

14.   During this session Nigeria and the Secretariat team will present the main outcomes of the country visit, highlighting issues of particular interest to ongoing discussions in the Task Force. A questions & answers session will follow.

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00   <u>Item 6</u>. **Reporting format: Information to be collected on the SDG focus, purpose and sector of destination of TOSSD activities**

15.   The emerging TOSSD Reporting Instructions note, under section 2.2.1 Eligibility criteria regarding sustainable development, that *"In the context of TOSSD, an activity is deemed to support sustainable development if it directly contributes to at least one of the SDG targets as identified in the official list of SDG targets developed and maintained by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC)."* The reporting format includes a field entitled "SDG focus" in which multiple SDG targets can be entered.

16.   In previous Task Force meetings it has been agreed that, in addition to the SDG focus, reporting on TOSSD should include information on the purpose and sector of destination of the activities. The taxonomy to be used remains to be discussed. Some Task Force members have indicated their interest in using the OECD CRS purpose codes for this reporting. The International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) has been mentioned as an alternative. In addition, the Task Force has recommended that the Secretariat looked into the work carried out by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) to map the SDGs, targets and indicators to the themes in the CES framework for sustainable development.

17.   The issues paper for this item presents a concrete proposal on how the information on the SDG focus would be collected and the sector classification that could be used in the

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reporting on TOSSD. The Task Force members will be invited to comment on the proposal and, if needed, make suggestions for refinement.

18.   Discussion will be invited also on the issue of how to go about cases where reporters cannot find a direct link with one of the SDG targets (see paragraphs 37-38 of the emerging Reporting Instructions) and cases where an activity contributes to one SDG target but is detrimental to another. Examples of such cases will be provided based on the sector classification and the modalities of support. The objective of the discussion is to come to agreement on the currently bracketed text in paragraph 38 and Figure 4, data item 13, as well as the sector classification to be integrated in the Reporting Instructions. The question of whether all ODA – and other official flows to developing countries included in OECD DAC statistics – qualify as support for sustainable development will also be addressed.

12:30 Working lunch

19.   During this working lunch the Task Force will be invited to discuss, in a brainstorming mode, 2-3 questions related to the organisation of the future Task Force meetings.

14:00   Item 7. Communication and outreach

20.   The Secretariat and the co-Chairs will inform Task Force members about the outcomes of the TOSSD presentation at the Inter-Agency Expert Group (IAEG) on SDG indicators held on 11 April 2018 in Vienna. The main objective of the presentation was to raise awareness about TOSSD among IAEG members and to explore possibilities of having TOSSD included in the SDG indicator framework. This might be challenging since the IAEG is quite reluctant, in general, to examine proposals for additional indicators at this stage.

21.   The Task Force will be invited to discuss whether one or several representatives from the IAEG should be invited to take part of the Task Force to increase knowledge of TOSSD among IAEG members and obtain support for including the measure in the comprehensive review of the SDG indicators scheduled to take place at the meeting of the UN Statistical Commission in March 2020.

22.   This agenda item will also cover broader outreach on TOSSD. Discussion will be invited on different communication tools and materials developed to increase awareness and knowledge about TOSSD among different stakeholders and to reduce any misperceptions. A "Frequently Asked Questions" document on TOSSD will be presented to the Task Force for comments. Moreover, the possibilities of holding webinars will be further explored with Task Force members.

15:30   Coffee Break

16:00   Item 8. Feedback from consultations with stakeholder groups on excerpts of emerging Reporting Instructions

23.   Since the 3rd Task Force meeting the Secretariat has organised specific discussions on TOSSD with the Participants of the Arrangement on Export Credits (Paris, 15 March) and

the Development Assistance Committee (Paris, 9 April). A workshop of the Working Party on Development Finance Statistics on the TOSSD provider perspective was also held (Paris, 29 March). Under this agenda item the Secretariat will inform the Task Force of the outcome of these discussions and present proposals arising from them for discussion by the Task Force. In particular, the Task Force will be invited to:

- Agree on the treatment of export credits in TOSSD.
- Discuss the treatment of multi-country/regional projects.
- Review a number of other suggestions to the emerging Reporting Instructions.

24.   Finally, the Task Force will be invited to prepare for the consultation with the civil society organisations on 31 May.

17:30   Wrap-up of Day 2 and next steps

18:00 Close