

High Level Workshop on Development Assistance 7 and 8 March 2007

Europe and Emerging Countries

European Investment Bank
Luxemburg

The growing economic and demographic weight of Brazil, India and China – the so-called “BIC” – has seen their status shifting over the new century, from emerging countries to emerging powers, and from emerging powers to new world leaders. The growing influence – particularly in economics issues – of BIC and other countries, such as South Africa, associated with globalization, is challenging international institutions and regimes. The indisputable importance of these new world leaders in international debates highlights, in an even more pressing way, the major change we have to face and raises, in a completely new way, sustainable development issues.

The role of these new world leaders in the design of international cooperation rules and ideas is subject to controversy and questioning in two main ways: 1) To what extent should developed countries continue to assist these countries, and is there a specific position for EU donors in this matter? 2) How will emerging countries’ aid programs to less developed countries affect the global governance of aid? As for the EU, the case of neighbouring emerging countries requires a specific approach.

Wednesday 7 March 2007

16h30 – 17h00 Registration and coffee

17h00 – 17h30 Introduction to the workshop and welcoming remarks

Chairman: Philippe de Fontaine Vive Curtaz, Vice President, European Investment Bank

Speakers: Philippe Etienne, Chief executive, international co-operation and development department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paris

Laurence Tubiana, Director, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (Iddri), Paris

17h30 – 19h30 Relationship between the EU and its Eastern and Mediterranean neighbours: a new paradigm in regional and global governance?

Eastern and Mediterranean countries have a long tradition of cooperation with the EU, which has been translated into formal agreements. If the search for a regional free trade agreement is one of the main objectives, most of these countries are defined as partners and this notion covers more than trade aspects. Is this relationship between the EU and its neighbouring emerging countries, which is based on positive interdependence and partnership and led by the notion of community *acquis*, an example of regional governance to be fostered?

Chairman: Philippe de Fontaine Vive Curtaz Vice-President, European Investment Bank, Luxemburg

Speakers: Jean-Louis Reiffers, Institut de la Méditerranée, Marseille

Adrian Civici, University of Tirana, Tirana & François Lerin, IAMM, Montpellier

Discussant: Antonio Missiroli, Chief Policy Analyst, EPC, Brussels

20h30 – 22h30 Dinner

Hosted by Minister of Cooperation, Development and Francophony France

Guest speaker: Faizel Ismail, permanent representative of South Africa to the World Trade Organization, Geneva

Thursday 8 March 2007

8h00 – 8h30 Coffee

8h30 – 10h15 **Aid to emerging countries: legitimacy and objectives**

The legitimacy of a continuation of traditional official development assistance (i.e. aid to finance economic and social development projects) in emerging countries is today being questioned: in the recent evolution of financial flows, where emerging countries are financing the US current account deficit, and receiving an important part of foreign direct investment, public aid allocation to emerging countries becomes a major concern for industrialized countries. To what extent does the role of emerging countries in the global provision of public goods create a new legitimacy for ODA? What would be the possible consequences in terms of ODA allocation and the role of bilateral vs multilateral channels? To address these questions, energy and public health policy provide interesting insights.

Chairman: Ingrid Gabriela Hoven, Ministerial Direktor Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, Germany

Energy consumption patterns

Global energy security will depend heavily on the development pattern that will be chosen by emerging countries in the coming decades. By the same token, the collective capacity to mitigate climate change will depend on the domestic energy policies that such countries implement, and also on their willingness to participate in an international climate regime. To what extent can innovative policies and technological leapfrogging give emerging countries a leading role in the energy and climate nexus?

Speaker: Peter Hennicke, President, Wuppertal Institute, Wuppertal

Discussant: Laurence Tubiana, Iddri, Paris

Public health and emerging risks: Emerging countries' responsibility and international cooperation

Global governance for health continues to evolve and become more complex and challenging, involving multiple actors and changing ideas of sovereignty. Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), like other newer diseases – such as AIDS and avian influenza – cuts across geographic, demographic and socio-economic boundaries. Globalization has a major systemic effect on the emergence of infectious disease. If the problem is global and international, much of the solution must be local and social. What would make it possible to shape a broad and integrated view of health and its determinants, its linkage to foreign policy, and support and opportunities for countries to articulate both their own needs and agree on common positions? What role will emerging countries play?

Speaker: Jennifer Prah Ruger, Professor, Yale Scholl of Public Health, New Haven

Discussant: Eeva Ollila, Welfare Research Group, National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (Stakes), Helsinki

10h15 – 10h30 Coffee break

10h30 – 12h30 Emerging countries as new players in aid programs to developing countries

FDI and ODA from emerging countries to less developed countries have taken a prominent role in the funding of economic policies in certain recipient countries. The increasing involvement of China in African countries, for instance, has been spectacular over the last five years. What is (are) the reason(s) behind such involvement? What developments are expected for other important emerging donors, such as Brazil, India, Thailand and South Africa, on both a regional and a global scale?

Chairman: Jérôme Pasquier, Deputy Director-General, international co-operation and development department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paris

Speaker: Christopher Alden, Senior Lecturer in International Relations, LSE, London

Discussant: Tilman Altenburg, German Development Institute, Bonn

12h30 Main conclusions on policy and research agenda

13h00 End of the conference

13h30 Lunch

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