Resolution on the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness

Transparency International’s Annual Membership Meeting, held on 15-16 October 2011 in Berlin, calls on all development stakeholders that are to convene from 29 November – 1 December 2011 in Busan South Korea at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4) to clearly and concretely address transparency, accountability and anti-corruption concerns as part of the new aid effectiveness accord that will be approved.

These mechanisms must serve as the agreed and mandated standard for donor practices and those of all development stakeholders: partner governments, multilateral and international organisations, parliamentarians, civil society organisations (CSOs) and businesses.

For aid to be effective, we call the HLF4 in Busan to endorse the following action points (as part of their forthcoming agreement):

1. Endorsement and implementation of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) as the common standard for donors to report transparently on their aid flows.

2. Ratification, implementation and monitoring of the UN Convention against Corruption as the principle tool for fighting corruption in developed and developing countries.

3. Recognition formally by all governments that civil society must be guaranteed the space and operating environment required to take on its stakeholder role in anti-corruption and development work.*

4. Extension of agreed aid effectiveness principles to new, non-DAC donors.

5. Endorsement by all development actors to a post-Paris Declaration agreement that has clear targets and monitoring mechanisms and which can be verified.
   i. All actors must reach an agreement on a verification framework which assesses aid effectiveness through mechanisms of transparency, participation, evaluation and the use of complaints and response mechanisms.
   ii. Partner and donor countries must secure meaningful civil society participation in the verification process including through an enabling operating environment, particularly at the local level.

* The Istanbul CSO Development Effectiveness Principles refer to this aspect to ensure that CSO effectiveness as development actors and civil society space is respected.

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Adopted 16 October 2011, Berlin