

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – Europeaid Directorate-General Economic and Financial Affairs Directorate-General Enlargement

The General Directors

Brussels, 2 3 NOV. 2012

Subject: Launch of the new EU Platform for Blending in External Cooperation (EUBEC)

Excellency, Sir/Madam,

In accordance with Decision No. 1080/2011/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011, the Council and the European Parliament requested the Commission to study, and subsequently report upon, the development of an "EU Platform for External Cooperation and Development" with a view to optimising the functioning of mechanisms for the blending of grants and loans in the field of external action.

For this purpose, the Commission created a Group of Experts (GoE) comprising EU Member States, the European External Action Service (EEAS), the EIB, and the European Parliament (as an observer).

On 26 October 2012 the Commission sent its Report to Council and the European Parliament reflecting the Conclusions of the GoE. These Conclusions recommend that the new EU Platform should be established and should aim to start working in 2012.

At the same time, the Commission has invited EU Member States and the European Parliament for the first session of the Policy Group of the EU Platform which is planned for 14 December 2012. This first session will be devoted to the adoption of the rules of procedure, the establishment of the work plan for the EU Platform as well as an overview of the evaluation process for existing financial instruments and a presentation of the new Financial Regulation. The Policy Group will be co-chaired by Mr Klaus Rudischhauser and Mr Gerassimos Thomas.

.../...

Permanent Representations of the EU Member States, Brussels European External Action Service (EEAS) We would therefore like to ask you to nominate, by 28 November 2012, up to two experts to participate in this Policy Group. Member States experts should be government officials and not staff of bilateral financial institutions.

Please send the names and contact details of the nominated experts by email to the following address: EC-GOE-EUPLATFORM@ec.europa.eu

If you should have any questions these can also either be sent to this mailbox or you may contact the secretariat of the Platform - Mr Aneil Singh (00 322 298 6334) or Mr Bart Van Uythem (00 322 298 8061).

Yours sincerely,

In absence of the Director-General

Jøost Korte

Deputy Director-General

Fokion Fotiadis Director General

EuropeAid

Stefano/Sannino/

Director General

ELARG

Marco Buti

Director General

ECFIN

Enclosures:

- Letter to the Secretary-General of the Council and the Secretary-General of the European Parliament
- Conclusions Paper of the Group of Experts