

The summer was a busy one! CONCORD met intensively with the main European institutions. Members' networking and capacity-building was encouraged by a Summer School on development education and a meeting of the national platforms to which NGOs from Latin America were also invited.

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CONCORD is the European confederation of relief and development NGOs. Its 22 national associations and 20 international networks represent over 1,600 NGOs which are supported by millions of citizens across Europe.

CONCORD leads reflection and political actions and regularly engages in dialogue with the European institutions and other civil society organisations. It is part of the Global Call to Action against Poverty. Find out more about CONCORD on www.concordeurope.org.

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A WORD FROM THE GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION AGAINST POVERTY – EUROPE

By Julien Vaissier (GCAP Europe Secretariat) and Andreas Vogt (CONCORD Secretariat)

Governments too often fail to address the needs of the people within their territory, the quantity and quality of aid from rich countries is inadequate and promises of debt cancellation have not yet materialised. Rich countries have yet to act on their repeated pledges to tackle unfair trade rules and practices. But the world has never been richer, and we have the means to turn this situation around.

Galvanised by this imperative, a group of civil society actors including NGOs, international networks, social movements, trade unions, women's organisations, faith-based and youth groups and other civil society actors met in Johannesburg in September 2004. They launched the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP).

GCAP has adopted the white band as its official international symbol – a symbol that has been seen on the arms of millions of people in many countries, highlighting that the war against the injustice brought on by poverty and inequality is not confined to a few activists but is, in fact, a global phenomenon. In many countries, national GCAP coalitions have been built, and GCAP has become increasingly present in the Global South. At European level, the call to action gave a decisive push to EU member states' aid commitments in 2005. For the Global Day of Action, on 17 October 2006 (International Day for the Eradication of Poverty), GCAP mobilised 23.5 million citizens around the world to demonstrate against poverty and inequality.

The global meeting of GCAP national coalitions in Montevideo in May 2007 was the moment to decide on what ambitions for GCAP. After lengthy debates, participants agreed to give the Global Call a mandate until 2015 and to establish minimum procedures to ensure accountability and good governance within GCAP. These decisions will have implications for the Europe region.

After the transitional year many national GCAP coalitions faced in 2006, the last GCAP Europe Assembly in Rome (12-14 September 2007) demonstrated that the attendees (representing 19 national coalitions out of 31) were eager to bring GCAP along new paths leading to concrete actions to provoke the political change NGOs are all striving for. The GCAP Europe Secretariat, hosted by CONCORD since February 2007, has played and continues to play a key role in building up the new momentum of the call to action in Europe.

The Rome participants paved the road for the future development and objectives of GCAP Europe. Gathered together in "la casa internazionale delle donne", the attendees kick-started the process of a drawing up a three-year strategic framework (2008/2010) designed in light of the Montevideo Declaration and in light of the GCAP national coalitions' expertise and priorities. The document is to be approved by the whole GCAP Europe constituency by the end of the year.

The main purpose of the GCAP Europe assembly was to reflect on common plans/activities in order to bring all the European voices together to echo politically at national and regional levels. CONCORD's Aid Watch Report Launch in 2007 – supported by GCAP coalitions in Spain, Hungary, Malta, Austria, Greece, Portugal and Slovenia, to name but a few – embodies the type of action the European campaigners would like to integrate into the strategy and translate on the ground through creative activities. The 2009 EU Parliamentary elections and the G8 Summit in Italy, to be held the same year, will be two key moments towards which the GCAP Europe supporters intend to act in solidarity.

Historically, development NGOs in Europe have developed many ways of influencing positively the lives of people and communities living in poverty. NGOs support and implement many concrete projects and programmes, raise awareness on development issues in Europe and persuade political decision-makers of the need to give external policies a clear pro-poor focus. In recent years, big efforts have been made to coordinate and articulate these three aspects of NGO work better in order to achieve more impact and effectiveness.

CONCORD and GCAP Europe have a huge potential to mutually strengthen each other. Advocacy and campaigning should go hand in hand if NGOs move from complementarity to real synergies. CONCORD can provide GCAP Europe with political intelligence and evidence-based positions and GCAP Europe can mobilise citizens for translating those positions into public pressure on decision-makers.

October 17th will be the big mobilisation day for GCAP. Millions of citizens around the world are expected to raise their voices together to demand concrete steps to end poverty and inequality. CONCORD will mark this day of action with the launch of a photo exhibition in the European Parliament which highlights the impact of Europe on the developing world.

For more information on GCAP Europe, contact Julien, gcapeuropesecretariat@whiteband.org

For more information on the photo exhibition, contact aphilippart@concordeurope.org



CONCORD IN ACTION

Are NGDO Platforms financially sustainable?

A French proverb says: "L'argent est le nerf de la guerre", meaning that no activities can be achieved if there is no money. In assessing their potential for participating in European policy work, many CONCORD members have identified their financial sustainability as the core challenge. Although many of them do have guidelines and experience in the field of financial management, most national NGDO platforms do not have explicit strategies for securing and diversifying funding, or building up reserves. CONCORD therefore focused its annual capacity-building seminar on this aspect.

On 10 September, 25 coordinators, treasurers and other representatives involved in the financial aspects of their organisation came together to learn about how to design a financial strategy as an NGO platform/network. John Cammack, a senior consultant for NGDOs on financial matters, guided participants through this crucial topic. CONCORD members exchanged their experiences of negotiating government grants and of the pros and cons of different membership fee systems.

For further information: avogt@concordeurope.org. Minutes of the seminar and related information are available on the capacity-building section of CONCORD's extranet.

CONCORD meets the Development Committee of the European Parliament

CONCORD traditionally meets the political coordinators and chair of the Development Committee of the European Parliament (EP) twice a year. The first meeting this year took place on 16 July 2007 with an EP delegation that included former president Mr Borrell, now chair of the EP's development committee. With this meeting, CONCORD continues its efforts to strengthen its links with the parliament. CONCORD believes that the European Parliament has a vital scrutiny role in making sure that the European Commission's programmes are in line with policy. On this occasion, CONCORD thanked the European Parliament for its very positive role in the drafting of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI). The European Parliament was crucial in challenging the ideas and proposals of the European Commission and Council. NGOs think it would be good if the EP could invest in a similar way in the scrutiny of the thematic programmes of the Development Cooperation Instrument and the European Development Fund, backed up by NGOs and the concrete cases that NGOs can put forward. The European Parliament and the secretariat of the Council's Committee on Development will try to consolidate the political terrain in the DCI by investing in scrutiny of the calls for proposals. Regarding the ACP countries, the main aim is to make political headway by confronting the European Commission with its democratic responsibilities.

CONCORD and the European Parliament also discussed the EU-Africa Strategy, the Lisbon Summit and the joint organisation of an annual event. This year the event will mark the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and will consist in the launch of CONCORD's photo exhibition in the parliament on 16 October.

For further information: aloeckx@concoreurope.org

Lobbying around the Non-State Actors thematic programme

The EU's thematic programmes are very important to NGOs. CONCORD had an opportunity to share its views with the major players at a "quadrilogue" meeting convened by the European Commission. This meeting with the European Parliament (EP), member states and civil society organisations (CSOs) took place on 13 September. The discussion topics were the thematic programmes in the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) and in particular the annual action plans contained in these programmes. From the CSO representatives there was a great deal of criticism of the consultation process and the content of the annual action plan, especially in relation to the Non-State Actors and Local Authorities (NSA-LA) Annual Action Plan. Before the quadrilogue, CONCORD sent a letter to the director of

EuropeAid, Mr Koos Richelle, and organised a small meeting with NGOs from other sectors and with some member states. Through the CONCORD network, many member states' representatives at national level were also contacted before the quadrilogue meeting in Brussels.

During the meeting Maria Winnubst, chair of the CONCORD working group on funding (FDR), read a statement on behalf of the CONCORD Board. She stressed the problematic aspects of the NSA-LA annual action plan: e.g., the limitation of NGOs' right of initiative because of the country priority lists and because of the programme's lack of coherence due to the deconcentration and lacks of strategic focus of the calls for proposals. The member states' representatives present at the meeting seemed open to these comments, criticisms and arguments. Also, other civil society organisations, such as the federation of unions and the committee of local authorities, echoed these concerns. In addition, the European Parliament made a statement that was quite critical of all the thematic programmes and the fact that none of them is in line with the DCI Regulation (the legal basis of the thematic programmes), and it urged member states to ensure that programmes followed the legal basis.

On Friday 14 September the European Commission and the DCI Committee of the European Council (consisting of member states) debated the proposed NSA-LA annual action plan. Member states refused to accept the proposed action plan, and a written procedure is currently under way.

For further information: aloeckx@concoreurope.org



ACTION OF THE SUMMER Meet the "Mesa de Articulación"



Have you ever heard of the "Mesa de Articulación de Asociaciones Nacionales y Redes de ONGs de América Latina y el Caribe"? It is a space in which NGOs from the Latin American region can act as a network. It aims at formulating a common agenda in response to the many challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean today, so that NGOs may meet and dialogue with other political, governmental, non-governmental, social and academic actors. In 2007, CONCORD met the "Mesa".

On 23 March 2007 in Santiago de Chile, at its first meeting of the year, the Mesa adopted its Letter of Principles. For the first time, NGO platforms from Europe took part in the meeting, to look for ways of working together on a variety of issues. CONCORD, represented by Gerard Karlshausen, Board Member, and the French (Coordination SUD), Portuguese and Spanish Platforms, joined the dialogue and expressed its interest in strengthening cooperation on a range of activities. One suggestion put forward was to organise a joint activity, which CONCORD and the Mesa then did in Brussels on 11-12 September.

For CONCORD, this first seminar with the Mesa fits in with the Confederation's strategic objective of strengthening its links and alliances with actors and networks from the South. It is worth mentioning that for the very first time CONCORD, as the European Confederation, was meeting a continental/regional counterpart.

Some 50 participants then gathered in Brussels for exchanges and discussions around four main clusters of issues: the political and historical situations of the two continents and the evolving relations between the EU and Latin America; the challenges posed by regional integration processes in both continents; the role of NGOs as agents of change; and the possible mobilisation agenda for 2008. On 12 September, the ALOP* report on democracy and development was presented and debated with the participants and institutional stakeholders. This was followed by two thematic workshops, on financing for development and the regional association agreements.

At the end of the two days of joint work, the Mesa and CONCORD representatives agreed on some follow-up and short and medium-term action points, mainly related to possible joint actions to mark the EU-Latin America-Caribbean Heads of State Summit in 2008 and the deepening of the debate on the role of NGOs, which would culminate in an international conference to be organised during the French presidency of the EU.

For more information: Ester Asín Martínez (easin@concordeurope.org)

* Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción:

New partnership on Gender Equality for Development & Peace

What's more important than gender equality? 11 September 2007 saw the official launch of the Partnership between the European Commission and the United Nations on Gender Equality for Development and Peace. This joint three-year programme of the European Commission, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO) aims to strengthen the new aid arrangements by promoting gender equality. Through a series of national consultations and mapping exercises, the EC/UN partnership will evaluate the use and efficiency of aid and identify practical approaches for promoting gender equality in 12 pilot countries (Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Suriname and the Ukraine). While promoting the role and visibility of the EC and the UN on the question of gender equality in development cooperation, this project also aims to develop a clear political agenda on gender equality and aid effectiveness for High Level Forum III in Accra in September 2008.

Evidence suggests that the introduction of new aid arrangements has reduced the focus on gender and development, so CONCORD welcomes this new initiative to profile the gender and aid effectiveness agenda. Aid cannot be effective unless it tackles the crucial issue of gender equality and women's empowerment. Furthermore, to ensure far-reaching results, it is essential to involve civil society organisations, and in particular gender-based organisations, in this exercise.

Given its own work on aid effectiveness, CONCORD is particularly interested in following the outcomes of this project. Given that it is a short-term and results-oriented project, however, it is important for the European Commission not to lose sight of its wider commitments to promoting gender and development as enshrined in the European Development Consensus and as outlined in the new EU strategy for gender equality launched in March 2007.

For more information on the EC/UN partnership: <http://www.gendermatters.eu> or newing@concordeurope.org

Dialogue on the future EU-Africa Partnership

Africa is one of the big CONCORD dossiers of the year. As part of its intensive advocacy work on the EU-Africa Partnership and EU-Africa Strategy, CONCORD met the EU institutions in September, mainly DG Development (Mr Philippe Darmuzey) and representatives of the Portuguese presidency and member states. CONCORD was also invited to attend the so-called European Commission-World Bank "Limelette Process" meeting with civil society, which focused on cooperation in Africa.

Was this enough? No. On 20 September CONCORD met with the European Council ad hoc working party on the EU-Africa Strategy. This Council working party is made up of member states' representatives coming mainly from national foreign affairs ministries. Representatives from almost all of the 27 member States attended the meeting, at which CONCORD was represented by Sophie Robin (Portuguese NGDO platform), Louise Hilditch (Action Aid), Luis Morago (Oxfam International), Karine Sohet (Aprodev), Catherine Naughton (CBM), and Ester Asín Martínez (CONCORD secretariat).

The meeting began with an exchange and debate on the broader political context of the Strategy and the process leading to the Lisbon Summit. CONCORD representatives stressed that the important issues to be looked at in Lisbon were human rights and governance, not focusing only on Zimbabwe. The Summit had a value, and it was an important political process that should not be hindered by a political episode. A successful Summit needed to deal with hot political topics that seemed to be pushed into the background (human rights and governance, Sudan, EPAs, etc.), otherwise it would be an empty political occasion.

CONCORD raised a concern about the very slowly emerging role of **women's rights and gender** in the Strategy. The Strategy offered an opportunity for the EU to take on board some of the African Union declarations on that and to include specific language on women's rights and gender issues at a political level.

On **the role of CSOs in the Strategy**, that will depend on how much CSOs will really be involved. It is not enough to put it on paper – it must become a reality. The involvement will depend on the objectives of the partnership and the impact on peoples' lives as well. The dialogue must be ongoing and systematic and not organised only for official summits. Otherwise CSOs will gradually disengage. At the meeting with the Council's ad hoc working party, CONCORD asked the member states to draw lessons from the involvement of civil society in partnerships with other regions of the world, and briefly presented some lessons learned and examples from Latin America.

For further information: Ester Asín Martínez (ester.asin@concordeurope.org)

STOP PRESS

Development Education Summer School

The eagerly awaited 2007 edition of the Development Education Summer School was organised by DEEEP and the Slovak NGDO Platform, and was held in Slovakia. Over 100 participants from 26 European Union countries and 10 third countries attended the week of training, whose aim was to reflect on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the role of development education. Many experts from international organisations and the voluntary sector helped the participants to deepen their knowledge of MDG issues – a subject that was all the more relevant as the date 07/07/07 coincided with the beginning of the second half of the time set for achieving these Goals (2015).

The week of training gave all the participants a chance to tackle the MDG issue, share their experiences and enrich one another. They were divided into five working groups. Group A: the world of policy and decision-making, Group B: the media, Group C: teachers and youth movements, Group D: migrants' organisations and diasporas, and Group E: business. Each group had a facilitator and a "Candide" (critical observer) who closely and critically monitored the participants' learning process. At the final plenary session participants were presented with the outcome of their discussions and shared the results they had obtained.

In addition, they were able to get to know one another better at different times of the day thanks to the open spaces, the audiovisual market, etc.

Next year you are invited to the Netherlands for the summer school, which will again have a highly topical subject: "Getting global poverty on the European political agenda through development education, campaigning and advocacy". A unique opportunity for getting ready for the EU elections in 2009!

For further information: www.deeep.org/summerschool or www.mvro.sk/summerschool – Angelo Caserta (a.caserta@deeep.org) or Chiara Tripepi (c.tripepi@deeep.org).

Call for an open and transparent Intergovernmental Conference

In early June the [Civil Society Contact Group](#)¹ sent a call for an effective treaty and a transparent and accessible Inter-Governmental Conference (IGC) to all 27 EU heads of state and government. The Civil Society Contact Group urged EU leaders to ensure that the following points would be included in the new treaty for the EU:

- Charter of Fundamental Rights
- Key components of Part III of the draft Constitution, including policies on the environment, the new energy chapter and the horizontal social clauses, together with the strengthening of the EU's development policy and its ability to play a responsible role in the world need to be retained in a new treaty
- The principle of participatory democracy
- The extension of qualified majority voting

The call also challenged the European Council to open up the inter-governmental negotiations. A coherent and effective strategy for involving civil society is urgently needed to engage European citizens in the process and inform its outcomes. Click here for the full call in [English](#), [French](#) and [Italian](#).

For your information, the CSCG training handbook *Making your voice heard in the EU – A guide for NGOs* is now also available in [Bulgarian](#), [Estonian](#), [Italian](#) and [Spanish](#). It is specifically designed for 'newcomer' NGOs and activists who are in the process of drawing up a European strategy. It provides tailor-made information on the EU institutions, how European NGOs work and lobbying tips, illustrated by examples of EU-level campaigns. You can also download it here in [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Hungarian](#), [Latvian](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Slovenian](#).

For more information: Regula Heggli, CSCG Coordinator, coordinator@act4europe.org

¹ The EU Civil Society Contact Group has been in existence since 2002 and brings together eight large rights- and values-based NGO sectors: culture, the environment, education, development, human rights, public health, social and women.

THE EUROPE FILES

This column reports on the new appointments made in the last month, both in development NGOs and in the EU institutions.

European NGOs

- ± Rein Antonissen, European Policy Officer at 11.11.11 (Belgian platform – Flemish part) is taking up 2007 a new position on 8 October, as deputy director with the Flemish Refugee Movement (member of European Council on Refugees and Exiles). You can contact him at rein@vluchtelingenwerk.be. Wiske Jult (wiske.jult@11.be) will replace him from 12 November.
- ± Francisco-Javier Padilla, Research Officer with CNCD (Belgian platform) is now working for the Belgian Greens. Gaspard Denis is taking over: gaspard.denis@cncd.be, tel. +32 2 2501262
- ± Eef Wuyts, EU Liaison Officer at IPPF European Network, is back from maternity leave: ewuyts@ippfen.org. Tel. +32 (2) 250 0950 – www.ippfen.org.
- ± Mikaela Gavas is leaving temporarily BOND (UK platform) to become Policy Advisor at the EU Department of the UK Department for International Development: m-gavas@dfid.gov.uk, tel. +44 (0) 20 7023 1693.
- ± Fiona Thornton has joined EU-CORD as an intern until summer 2008. She will be taking forward EU-CORD's work on disability and child rights together with other issues: Fiona.thornton@eu-cord.org.
- ± Denise Auclair from CIDSE is on maternity leave until the end of March 2008. Her replacement is Melis Sandrine Alguadis at alguadis@cidse.org, tel. +32.2.230.77.22.
- ± Katrin Hugendubel, Social Policy Coordinator, is leaving Solidar for a job in Uganda. Her e-mail is katubel@gmx.net.
- ± Dick Oosting, Director of Amnesty International's EU office is to take up the position of director for Europe of the International Center for Transitional Justice, starting in February 2008.
- ± Ludvig Hubendick is no longer working at the European Youth Forum. For any questions, you can now contact Luiza Bara, Head of the Policy Development and Advocacy Department: luiza.bara@youthforum.org. Ludvig can be contacted at lhubendick@yahoo.se.
- ± Arnaud Gorgemans is no longer working at EurAC. You can contact him at: arnaud.gorgemans@solmond.be. Kris Berwouts is the new director: kris.berwouts@eurac-network.org.

EU institutions

Permanent Representation to the EU:

- ± **UK:** Kim Darroch is the new UK Permanent Representative. He was Foreign and Commonwealth Office Press Secretary and Head of News Department from 1998-2000. He became Europe Director in mid-2000, Europe Director-General in 2003, then EU Adviser to the Prime Minister and Head of the Cabinet Office European Secretariat.
- ± **Belgium:** Jean De Ruyt has become Permanent Representative of Belgium. He previously served as Press Attaché and Secretary for the Belgian Embassy in Kinshasa and Algeria respectively. He also held positions as Permanent Representative of Belgium to Warsaw, NATO, and the United Nations. Didier Seeuws is the new Deputy Permanent Representative. He served as an Advisor to the Permanent Representation of Belgium in charge of relations with the European Parliament, and Attaché to the Belgian Embassy in Washington D.C. conducting work on economic and investment-related issues, and a spokesperson for the Department of Foreign Affairs in Belgium.
- ± **Estonia:** Raul Mälik is the new Estonian Permanent Representative. He was Director-General of the Policy Planning Department at the Estonian foreign ministry. In 1998-99 he served as Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- ± **Slovenia:** Marko Bucik is now advisor on COREPER II and European Council meetings at the Government Office for European Affairs in Slovenia. Mr Bucik has worked for the European Movement International since October 2004 as Press and Communications Officer and Campaign Coordinator and was involved in other pro-European NGOs since 1999.

European Investment Bank:

- ± **Marta Gajęcka is new EIB Vice-President:** Ms Marta Gajęcka joined the European Investment Bank as Vice-President on 16 August 2007. She will succeed Mr Ivan Pilip, who has ended his three-year term and was the first EIB Vice-President to come from the EU member states that joined the Union on 1 May 2004. Ms Gajęcka is a Polish citizen.
- ± Ms Eva Srejber has been appointed Vice-President too. Before that, she pursued a banking career in Sweden and with an international financing institution.

European Commission

- ± [Hugues Mingarelli appointed Deputy Director-General for External Relations](#)
- ± [João Aguiar Machado appointed Deputy Director-General for External Relations](#)

European Parliament

± Nomination:

- French Socialist MEP Martine Roure has been elected Vice-President of the European Parliament, replacing Pierre Moscovici who left the European Parliament to become a French parliamentarian after the French general election of 17 June this year.
- The EPP-ED Group has appointed Mr Martin Kamp as its new Secretary-General. Mr Kamp, who took up his new duties in September 2007, is an official of the EPP-ED Group's secretariat. He has assisted members of the Group as an advisor to various committees, as leader of a permanent working group, and more recently as head of the Group's Parliamentary Service. He has also assisted the Chairman of the Group at meetings of the Conference of Presidents. Before joining the EPP Mr Kamp worked as a lawyer.
- Union for Europe of the Nations group: Adam Bielan (UEN, Poland) is the Group's new vice-president. Mr Bielan is to be replaced in the post of group treasurer by another Polish MEP, Ryszard Czarnecki. Mr Kaminski is leaving the European Parliament for good, having been appointed in July to the post of Under-Secretary of State to the Polish President Lech Kaczynski.

- ± Incoming EP members: [LEFRANCOIS, Roselyne](#) (PES, France); [NERIS, Catherine](#) (PES, France); [PRIBETICH, Pierre](#) (PES, France); [FERRARI, Francesco](#) (ALDE, Italy); [TOMASZEWSKA, Ewa](#) (UEN, Poland); [CORDA, Giovanna](#) (PES, Belgium), and [JACOBS, Lily](#) (PES, the Netherlands).

- ± Outgoing EP members: [VINCENZI, Marta](#) (ALDE, Italy); [COVENEY, Simon](#) (ADLE, Ireland); [JOAN i MARÍ, Bernat](#) (Greens, Spain) and [DÍEZ GONZÁLEZ, Rosa](#) (PES, Spain); [VINCENZI, Marta](#) (PES, Italy); [TARABELLA, Marc](#) (PES, Belgium); [KAMIŃSKI, Michał Tomasz](#) (UEN, Poland); [van den BERG, Margrietus](#) (PSE, the Netherlands). From France: [FRUTEAU, Jean-Claude](#) (PES); [MOSCOVICI, Pierre](#) (PES); [REYNAUD, Marie-Line](#) (PES). From Greece: [HATZIDAKIS, Konstantinos](#) (EPP-DE); [B EGLITIS, Panagiotis](#) (PES); [XENOGIANNAKOPOULOU, Marilisa](#) (PES); [SIFUNAKIS, Nikolaos](#) (PES) [KARATZAFERIS, Georgios](#) (ID) and [SAMARAS, Antonis](#) (PPE-ED). Owing to the first EU elections in Bulgaria: ALDE: [ALI, Nedzhami](#); [ILCHEV, Stanimir](#); [HYUSMENOVA, Filiz Hakaeva](#); [KAZAK, Tchetin](#); [PARVANOV, Antonia](#); [SHOULEVA, Lydia](#) and [CHRISTOVA, Christina](#). PES: [BLIZNASHKI, Georgi](#); [CHERVENYAKOV, Maden Petrov](#); [KIRILOV, Evgeni](#); [LYUBCHEVA, Marusya Ivanova](#); [PAPARIZOV, Atanas](#) and [VIGENIN, Kristian](#). EPP-DE: [DIMITROV, Konstantin](#); [DIMITROV, Martin](#); [DIMITROV, Philip Dimitrov](#) and [SOFIANSKI, Stefan](#). TIS: [STOYANOV, Dimitar](#).

CONFERENCES ORGANISED BY CONCORD AND ITS MEMBERS

- ◆ 15-17 October: seminar on "Civil Society Organisations' Aid Effectiveness", Brussels. Contact: Csoae@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 8 November: forum discussion on "Climate Justice beyond 2012: Highlighting the voices and needs of the poor and vulnerable in dealing with climate change". Development Days – Lisbon, Portugal. Organised by the Climate Alliance Network in partnership with CONCORD. Contact: easin@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 9 November: participation in the expert meeting on the coherence of European Policies organised as part of the Development Days by CONCORD and the Evert Vermeer Foundation. Lisbon, Portugal. Contact: eboonstra@evertvermeer.nl
- ◆ 9 November: launch of the multi-stakeholder Consensus on Development Education and Awareness-Raising in Europe. Development Days – Lisbon, Portugal. Contact: c.tripepi@deeeep.org
- ◆ 9-11 November: Development Days: CONCORD photo exhibition. Cocktail on 8/11. Development Days – Lisbon, Portugal. Contact: aphilippart@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 15-17 November: Civil Society Forum – Euro-African Dialogue (Portuguese Presidency) – Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon. Contact: Sophie Robin sophie.robins@plataformaongd.pt.

2008

- ◆ 21-25 January: CONCORD photo exhibition at European Parliament, Brussels (3rd floor). Contact: aphilippart@concordeurope.org

FORTHCOMING WORK MEETINGS

- ◆ 3-4 October: Aid Watch seminar – Brussels. Contact: easin@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 11 October: meeting of the convenors of CONCORD working structures
- ◆ 12 October: Policy Forum – Brussels. Contact: easin@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 23-24 October: FDR meeting – Brussels. Contact: aloeckx@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 24-25 October: Development Education Forum – Brussels. Contact: aloeckx@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 12-13 November: Enlargement, Pre-Accession and Neighbourhood WG – Bucharest, Romania
- ◆ 27-28 November:  CONCORD second General Assembly – Brussels. Contact: newing@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 10 or 13 December: Advisory Group – Brussels. Contact: aphilippart@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 11 December: Cotonou Group – Aid Sub-Group – Brussels. Contact: easin@concordeurope.org
- ◆ 11-12 December: Board meeting – Brussels

For further details on any of these CONCORD-related activities do not hesitate to contact the CONCORD Secretariat or check the extranet if you are a member.

OTHER NEWSLETTERS

- ◆ Have a look at the [newsletters of CONCORD members](#)
- ◆ [Trialog](#): latest news of this project aiming to raise awareness of development issues in the enlarged EU and to strengthen dialogue and partnerships between development NGOs in accession countries, EU countries and developing countries.
- ◆ [Deeep](#) (Development Education Exchange in Europe Project): this second issue of *Development Education Times* will provide you with information on upcoming events, resources and publications related to development education as well as a range of articles dealing with funding opportunities for development NGOs.
- ◆ [CSCG](#) (Civil Society Contact Group): the CSCG brings together eight large European NGO platforms in the following fields: culture (EFAH), development (CONCORD), the environment (Green 10), human rights (HRDN), lifelong learning (EUCIS), public health (EPHA), social (Social Platform) and women (EWL) to develop the dialogue between civil society organisations and the European institutions as an essential part of strengthening participatory democracy.
- ◆ Euforic News: [click here to subscribe](#) and find out the latest news about development.
- ◆ Newsletter focusing on the EU Presidency Project of the Portuguese NGDO Platform. It informs you about the main activities and themes connected with the project, such as the Europe-Africa Dialogue. Click here: [Newsletter #1 – July 2007](#)

