

In these times of food and financial crisis, European NGOs are mobilising for the Doha Summit in early December to make sure there will be no setbacks for financing for development.

With only seven years left until the deadline for the Millennium Goals, governments still have a chance to keep their promises. NGOs are counting on the European Union to take a firm stand at the Doha Summit.

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CONCORD is the European confederation of relief and development NGOs. Its 22 national associations and 18 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 PETER NGATIA ON THE EU'S "BLUE CARD"

EU's "Blue Card" rubs salt into wound of hurting nations

Ways must be found to turn the global movement of labour into a win-win situation. The European Union's plans to develop a "Blue Card" to attract highly qualified migrants to meet its labour needs raises several urgent questions, particularly for African governments grappling with critical shortages of health workers.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) says Africa has already lost one-third of its human capital and continues to lose skilled personnel at an increasing rate, with an estimated 20,000 doctors, university lecturers, engineers and other professionals leaving the continent annually since 1990. The IOM estimates that there are currently 300,000 highly qualified Africans in the diaspora, yet at the same time Africa spends US\$4 billion annually to employ some 100,000 western experts.

On the t-shirt:



Europe, here we come

The effects of this brain drain are felt directly in key sectors of African economies, particularly education and health. Ten years ago there were 1,600 doctors in Zambia; only 400 are left now. In Kenya, 90 per cent of the medical personnel migrate to Europe and the USA every year. There are more Ethiopian-trained doctors practising in the city of Chicago alone than in the whole of Ethiopia, and more Malawian-trained doctors practising in Manchester than in Malawi.

Largely as a result of this massive haemorrhage of personnel, Africa has only three per cent of the global health workforce, despite bearing 25 per cent of the world's diseases. The health workforce is undoubtedly the driver of health systems. Migration of this precious resource from Africa has resulted in severely weakened health systems that can barely provide services, let alone pursue the aspirations of the Millennium Development Goals.

The proposed Blue Card of the European Union (EU), a special residence permit to be granted to immigrants, is bound merely to aggravate the situation, legitimising the movement of labour to Europe at the expense of low-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa. An exodus of health professionals will create an even greater global imbalance, with host countries creating reservoirs of health care professionals to replenish their aging and diminishing workforce while African countries have to put increasing pressure on health systems that are already stretched to breaking point. Ultimately, the further depletion of Africa's intellectual property will reverse gains made in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and fighting against HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

The European Union must consider the moral and ethical implications of its proposal before introducing the Blue Card. My gut reaction would be to ask the EU to have an exclusion clause for health professionals. But free movement is a human right, and African health professionals will move to Europe anyway, with or without the Blue Card. Moreover, we cannot ignore globalisation, and there is a need for African health professionals to contribute to alleviating the global burden of disease while enjoying the fruits of their hard work. We must therefore look for ways to turn the global movement of labour into a win-win situation for both Africa and Europe.

The challenges of stemming the brain drain are daunting, but certainly not insurmountable. They require, however, a collaborative effort by African governments and the western governments and institutions that recruit from Africa. To contain the health workers still on the continent and attract others from the diaspora, African governments must vigorously address the "push" factors that lead to migration. They must provide qualified health professionals with employment, competitive salaries and incentives – such as good housing, opportunities for professional and career development, and health facilities equipped with the basic requirements.

Europe too must be proactive in ensuring that African health systems are not robbed of valuable human resources without receiving compensation or restitution. Support could be extended to programmes that train health workers specifically for the African context, such as the African Medical and Research Foundation's Diploma in Community Health course, and the innovative eLearning Programme that trains nurses virtually, allowing them to learn and work at the same time.

If Europe must recruit from Africa, it should invest in building the capacity of training institutions to enable Africa to train enough health workers for itself and to meet Europe's needs. With expanded physical and fiscal space, the EU could contract individual African countries to produce health workers for them.

Ultimately, both the EU and African governments must implement policies that address health workforce densities, the weakened African health systems and resultant inequities, and the burden of global diseases.

Dr Ngatia is the Director for Capacity Building at the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF).

This article was also published in Kenya's [Daily Nation](#) on 9 July 2008.

CONCORD IN ACTION

Don't forget world hunger, urge development NGOs

On the eve of World Food Day and World Day for the Eradication of Poverty, on 16 and 17 October, CONCORD called for the European Union to give a rapid strategic response to the world food crisis.

"At a time when the attention of European decision-makers is focused on the turbulence in the financial markets, they would do well to remember the 'other' crisis: one billion people are facing hunger and need urgent attention," observed Olivier Consolo, Director of CONCORD.



The European Commission has proposed giving one billion euros to tackling the food crisis, but providing this money is not enough in itself. *"The money needs to be spent wisely, which means that it has to go to the most local level – to small farmers and producers, who are the only real hope of eradicating hunger"*, Olivier Consolo continued. In addition to finding this extra billion euros promised by the European Commission for small farmers in the South, the European Union must embark on a new kind of agricultural development that gives priority to local control and helps people turn their right to food into a practical reality. The real problem is not so much a lack of food as insufficient buying power. We need to produce food not just to increase the supply of foodstuffs but also to increase the buying power of the people producing them.

CONCORD fears that, if the steps taken to stimulate production are not sufficiently well targeted, they may lead to investment in large-scale farms that use technology and produce for markets that are not accessible to small farmers. [Read the press release.](#)

ACTION OF THE MONTH CONCORD meets the three EU institutions

In October CONCORD met not one but three EU institutions: the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission. As the icing on the cake, CONCORD also met the OECD.

At the European Parliament, a meeting took place on 7 October between a CONCORD delegation and the Development Committee policy coordinators. One of the main issues on the agenda was the food crisis and the proposal to set up a €1 billion "food facility". The CONCORD and European Parliament positions and concerns regarding the Food Facility were quite close. At the time of the October meeting it was not yet clear where the funding would come from. This process has to be managed well, because the credibility of the European Union is at stake. Another major issue on the agenda was the preparation of the Doha Conference on Financing for Development.

After having met with the development minister in Bordeaux at the end of September (see *Flash* No. 54), in October CONCORD was invited by the French Presidency for an informal discussion with CODEV, the Development committee of the Council of the EU, on the preparation of the European position for the Financing for Development Conference in Doha in early December. This position has been adopted by the General Affairs and External Relations Council (GAERC) on 11 November. CONCORD put forward its main demands on key issues where the European position should be ambitious and show leadership: on debt, on commitments regarding Official Development Assistance (ODA), on gender equality, on an innovative financing mechanism, on the reform of the financial architecture and on financial flows and taxation. A request was made to the next Czech presidency to invite CONCORD representatives to meet informally with CODEV during the next six-month period.

CONCORD also met with the European Commission to discuss follow-up actions to September's High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra, and preparations for the High-Level Event on Financing for Development to be held in Doha, Qatar, from 29 November to 2 December. On the post-Accra agenda, the European Commission is now in discussions to take forward a strategy of implementation with Member States. CONCORD has called on the European Commission and Member States to announce, immediately, time-bound implementation plans setting out how they will meet the commitments made in the [Accra Agenda for Action](#) and those made at the second High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Paris in 2005. For Doha, with civil society the European Commission discussed key blockages and opportunities for progress within its own draft common position on Doha, to be announced at the GAERC meeting on 10-11 November.

For further information: jasmine.burnley@concordeurope.org

Also this month, the AidWatch group was represented at a meeting held at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to follow up on the governmental agreements on Aid Effectiveness made at the inter-governmental conference that took place in Accra in September. CONCORD's AidWatch group also held informal lobbying meetings with a number of permanent representatives of EU governments in Brussels in October, to discuss European preparations on aid and financing for development ahead of the forthcoming UN meeting scheduled for November/December in Doha. Let's see what the results of all these activities will be in Doha.

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

Almost 100 national NGO platforms gather in Paris

During the French presidency of the European Union, in Paris on Thursday 30 October 2008 Coordination SUD, in partnership with CONCORD, organised an international conference entitled "World Views on Europe". Here, for the first time in history, representatives of national NGO platforms from almost 100 countries came together. The conference, which was open to the press and the public, was an opportunity – at this time of world crisis – to compare the visions of NGOs from all over the world with those of the French, EU and international institutions on four major challenges for the future of humankind: globalisation, sustainable development, building a peaceful world and human rights.

The participants took the opportunity to give Mr Joyandet, French State Secretary for Cooperation with responsibility for the French-speaking World, a road map entitled "[Messages from the World to the European Union](#)". This asks the EU for a reform of world governance that would be in the service of the most vulnerable and calls on it to review all its trade, farming, environmental and economic policies, to make them contribute to genuinely sustainable development, north and south, and to the fight against inequality.

According to Bakary Doumbia, President of FECONG (Malian NGO Platform), "*European development cooperation focuses on the fight against illegal immigration, promoting the interests of European companies and fighting terrorism, instead of strengthening the policies on education, health and equality between men and women*".

Mike Mathias, Chairman of CONCORD's Policy Forum, explained that "*the European model of development must be re-examined from scratch. The planet cannot bear the consumption by the economically privileged populations of the world. The current model, based on economic growth alone, does not allow for a better distribution of wealth*".

[Click here to see some videos made at "World Views on Europe"](#).
["World Views on Europe" fact sheet – "World Views on Europe" briefings](#)

NGOs: how can you communicate better with your members?

Second seminar for CONCORD's Communication Group since it was set up in 2007. On the menu, two main courses:

- Ø How can we communicate better with our members?
- Ø Full steam ahead for the EU elections in 2009.

While the link between the two topics may not be obvious, in fact one is a starter course coming before the other.

It is actually crucial for a national platform or a European network to be able to mobilise its members to campaign on raising public awareness and to take on candidates and politicians for the EU elections in 2009.

The recipe for success? Exchanges of experience mixed with more academic reflection, seasoned with training and served with web 2.0 sauce presented by [Euforic](#). Judge for yourself by visiting the blog started by the seminar participants: <http://comcord.wordpress.com>. Photos, a video, comments and mini-articles will bring these two days to life for you. And to see all the photos, be sure to visit: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/concordeurope>

For dessert, we'll have to wait until February 2009 and the third communication seminar, which will focus on "How we can communicate better with the press", with a view to mobilising the media on the EU elections. This will be a chance for CONCORD members to compare their intentions as regards these elections.



For further information: Agnès Philippart (aphilippart@concordeurope.org)

STOP PRESS

Coming soon: the 2009 Czech presidency

The Czech government's main motto for its EU Presidency is "Europe without Barriers" – a reference to competitiveness, the four freedoms and liberal trade policy. Other priorities include sustainable and safe energy, the revision of the EU budget and the Common Agricultural Policy, transatlantic relations, enlargement to include the Balkans and Eastern Europe, and progress in the areas of freedom, justice and security.

Development cooperation is not a key priority. But the 18-month programme drafted with the French and Swedish governments does call for work between now and the end of 2009 on: EU development policies and coherence, in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015; aid effectiveness, by implementing the Paris Declaration by the end of 2010; and negotiating and implementing Economic Partnership Agreements in Africa. It also calls for the following processes to be driven forward: enlargement and the Union for the Mediterranean; the implementation of a Common European Asylum System by 2010; the development of a comprehensive EU migration policy and the recognition of the positive link between migration and development; and, finally, ensuring that development aid takes the impact of climate change into account.

FoRS, the Czech national platform of development NGOs, is also planning lots of activities. The main focus of its presidency programme will be the effectiveness of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and promoting them to the public and to political stakeholders. FoRS will therefore contribute to the global [CSO Development Effectiveness process](#) established as by CSOs a self-driven process in parallel with the Paris Declaration.

Other priorities for the programme are: good governance; development effectiveness; development education; sustainable technologies for sustainable development; migration and development; agriculture and food security. A symposium, seminar, international conference and experts meetings will be organised to reflect on these themes.

For further information: Ms Zuzana Sládková, Policy Officer (policy@fors.cz – <http://www.fors.cz/e11home.htm>)

Breaking a record: more than 116 million people Stood Up against poverty

From 17-19 October almost 117 million people worldwide participated in what was by far the largest social mobilisation ever: "Stand Up and Take Action", organised by the [Global Call to Action against Poverty](#) (GCAP). In over 8,000 events spanning 131 countries, nearly two per cent of the world's population stood up and took action, calling on their leaders to live up to their promises to eradicate poverty and inequality worldwide.



The "Old Continent" of Europe actively answered the call sent out on 17 October, International Day for Poverty Eradication, as almost one million Europeans took part in this global initiative for a just and better world.

What is it for? Change comes about when people share a common cause and tell their leaders and representatives they want to see policies and practices that bring about the desired change. This has worked in the past!

In the current context of economic, food and climate-change crises, the Stand Up and Take Action result shows more than ever that an anti-poverty movement is building and that people all over the world are not willing to remain silent any more. On the eve of the forthcoming G20 meeting in Washington, there has never been a more important time for people in rich and poor countries to act together to call for governments and lending institutions to keep poverty as a priority.

For further information: Julien Vaissier (gcapsecretariat@concordeurope.org – www.whiteband.org)

European civil society challenges the EC on the EU's lobbying register

In an attempt to ensure that the European Union is "open to public scrutiny", in November 2005 the European Commission launched the European Transparency Initiative. As part of this initiative, a register for interest representatives was launched in June 2008. Companies, business associations, consultancies and civil society organisations that engage in "activities carried out with the objective of influencing the policy formulation and decision-making processes of the European institutions" are encouraged to register in a voluntary online register. Great? No, not really: the register is flawed, as it does

not require organisations to register the individual lobbyists who work for them, and because financial information on lobbying expenditure in the register is inconsistent and not comparable.

Public interest organisations call on the European Commission to review this flawed register, and urge all interest groups to adopt some guidelines to ensure greater transparency. In October the [EU Civil Society Contact Group](#), which CONCORD belongs to, and [ALTER-EU](#), produced such [guidelines](#). These recommend:

- ◆ the disclosure of the names of individual lobbyists and the issues they lobby on;
- ◆ a clear, broad definition of lobbying activities, to allow the accurate calculation of lobbying expenditure.

"Registering under these guidelines would set a constructive example of what the Commission must improve. We're putting forward a clear proposal and calling on the Commission to review its flawed register accordingly" said Fintan Farrell, Chair of the EU Civil Society Contact Group.

The guidelines, devised primarily for organisations that will sign up under the register's NGO category, should apply to all European lobbyists. They reflect in-depth discussions between public interest organisations and international lobbying transparency experts. They also take into account existing lobby disclosure legislation in the United States of America.

"The fact that we've had to come up with these guidelines at all is a clear sign that the Commission register as it is today is a failure. As things stand, even if every interest group in Brussels signed up to the register tomorrow, this would not ensure real transparency. A lobbying register without the names of lobbyists is as useful as a phone book without numbers" insisted Jorgo Riss from Alter-EU, the alliance for lobbying transparency.

Monique Goyens of BEUC, the European Consumers Organisation, explained: *"A strong register is in the interest of democracy and European citizens, who want to know who the real players in Brussels are, particularly at a time when the European Union is struggling to gain the trust of Europeans"*.

For further information: Regula Heggli, Coordinator of the EU Civil Society Contact Group (coordinator@act4europe.org)

Young Africans win the "World Views on Europe" competition

In the summer, as part of its programme during the French presidency of the European Union ("Let's give Europe meaning: solidarity and accountability"), Coordination SUD, the French platform of development NGOs, together with [RFI](#), [TV5 monde](#) and [Cartooning for Peace](#), an association started by the famous French press cartoonist Plantu, organised a competition for journalists and political cartoonists on the topic of "World Views on Europe".

They invited articles and cartoons from young non-Europeans under the age of 30, illustrating their perception of Europe. These would then feed into the reflection and debates on the future of the "European project". All four winners are from Africa: Guy-Aimé Ebloté and Edem Gadegbeku (for texts), and Hamidou Zoetaba and Benjamin Ilunga Yumba (for cartoons). The prizes were awarded at the Hôtel de Ville on 29 October 2008 at a reception entitled "Paris, Crossroads of International Solidarity", in the presence of the Mayor of Paris.

[Guy-Aimé Ebloté](#) is a journalist with the Côte d'Ivoire daily, *Le Rebond*. The jury unanimously selected Guy-Aimé Ebloté for his article entitled "France au revoir, Bonjour pollution" (Goodbye France, Hello pollution), which takes a new look at the Probo Koala affaire.

The dumping of European toxic waste in Côte d'Ivoire in 2006 turned the country into one of the worst of Africa's giant rubbish dumps. Despite some 15 deaths and thousands of victims, this is just one more ecological disaster.

Côte d'Ivoire seems to have become a destination of choice for waste from Europe – especially France and Scandinavia – with predictable repercussions on the health of the people who use these "Goodbye France", as the local people call second-hand objects sent from France.

[Read more...](#)

[Edem Gadegbeku](#) is a commentator with the ACP INTER press agency in Togo. He loves literature and soccer, and is passionately interested in international relations. His article, entitled "EU-Togo cooperation: still a Manichean relationship", uses Togo as an example to argue for a new balance in EU-Africa relations.

Like many other African republics, Togo – a developing country and one of the Africa-Caribbean-Pacific states – established cooperation with what are now known as "the 27" on the smouldering embers of the colonisation it had been subjected to from 1884 to 1960. Togo's atypical colonisation was the work of three major European countries: Germany, Britain and France. Now independent, the West African country tries daily to get started on the path to development while at the same time being financially "drip-fed" by Europe. [Read more...](#)

Hamidou Zoetaba is a caricaturist with the *Journal du Jeudi*, and has organised several press cartoon festivals in his native Burkina Faso. Here he shares his view of European aid to Africa and its – sometimes uncertain – fate.



Benjamin Ilunga Yumba, who has a diploma from the Fine Arts Academy in Kinshasa, is the youngest of the prize-winners. The jury was impressed with Benjamin's portrait of a starry-eyed African child – the stars being those of the EU flag.



Conference in Budapest to evaluate the Regional Partnership Programme

You may remember that the Regional Partnership Programme (RPP) was a unique initiative by the Austrian NGO platform (now called "global responsibility") focusing on development cooperation between five new EU member states: Slovenia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Austria. The aim of the RPP, which began in 2005 and finishes at the end of 2008, was to increase the capacity and visibility of development cooperation in the participating Central European countries and to improve cooperation between them at the regional level.

A pilot project fund of €1,100,000 was made available, financed jointly by Austrian Development Cooperation (70%) and by the governments (20%) and NGOs (10%) of all the participating countries. By responding to the call for proposals for pilot projects, some of the "newcomer" NGOs were able, for the first time, to gain applicable knowledge of writing proposals, reporting and implementing development projects.

A conference to evaluate the programme was held in Budapest at the end of September 2008. It showed that the programme had been a great success for the participating countries and their platforms. Many of those running the pilot projects stressed that their partnership with an Austrian NGDO, which was a precondition when applying for a project, had resulted in a mutual learning experience and facilitated networking that could be used for future cooperation.

In all, 58 projects were funded – 35 on development awareness and 23 on development cooperation – with 53 different organisations participating from five countries. Within the framework of the RPP a number of workshops and trainings were also organised, to build capacity in the platforms, e.g. on "understanding EU development cooperation" and on advocacy, lobbying and networking. The sharing of experiences between platforms proved to be very useful, as many participants were facing similar problems when trying to establish a sustainable dialogue with the official side.

The RPP proved to have been a useful bridge between old and new member states. The programme contributed to cross-border networking between platforms and opened up a forum for dialogue between MFAs and platforms, so a plan for continuing the cooperation between platforms and governments is to be developed. Watch this space...

Find out more about the evaluation conference and RPP activities: <http://www.eu-platform.at/english/start.asp?b=872>
Download the brochure "Learning by Doing", which summarises the RPP activities in 2005-2008:
http://doku.cac.at/rpp_broschure_a5_druckfertig_ansicht.pdf

From: Trialog Information Service, TIS (31/10/2008) – information provided by Danijela Janosevic from the RPP.

THE EUROPE FILES

New appointments made in the last month, both in development NGOs and in the EU institutions:

European NGOs

- 6 Clare Palmer is the new Sector Advocacy Officer at [BOND](#) (the UK national platform of Development NGOs). She is taking on BOND participation and support for members of this group: cpalmer@bond.org.uk
- 6 The European Fair Trade Advocacy Office has appointed Sergi Corbalán as Advocacy Coordinator. He is responsible for developing and advocating political positions: corbalan@fairtrade-advocacy.org
- 6 The European Peacebuilding Liaison Office, EPLO, has appointed Catherine Woollard as Director. Previously she worked e.g. for Transparency International: cwoollard@eplo.org, tel: +32 (0)2 233 37 32.
- 6 Anneke van Luijken is the coordinator of IUF, the [Respect and Rights for Domestic Workers](#) network: Anneke.vanLuijken@iuf.org

EU institutions

- 6 European Parliament: Incoming MEPs: [TEYCHENNÉ, Michel](#) (SPE, France, Member of the Committee on Transport and Tourism, and substitute Member of the Committee on Budgets); [DENANOT, Jean-Paul](#) (SPE, France, Member of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, and substitute Member of the Committee on Regional Development); [COLMAN, Trevor](#) (ID, UK); [GIUNTINI, Monica](#) (SPE, Italy); [BEDINGFIELD, Glenn](#) (SPE, Malta). Outgoing MEPs: [PAHOR, Borut](#) (SPE, Slovenia).
- 6 European Economic and Social Committee: Italian Mario Sepi is the new President of the EESC for 2008-2010. He will focus on three priorities: strengthening participatory democracy on the basis of the rules included in the new treaty, relaunching a new post-2010 Lisbon strategy, and consolidating the defence of the European social model by fighting for the entry into force and full application of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights.

FORTHCOMING CONCORD WORK MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

NOVEMBER

4 November	EU CSO Group on International Development	Brussels	easin@concordeurope.org
13 November	Convenors' Forum	Brussels	easin@concordeurope.org
12-14 November	GCAP Europe face-to-face meeting	St Petersburg	gcapeuropesecretariat@whiteband.org
19-20 November	FDR Group meeting	Brussels	An.vangoey@concordeurope.org
26 November	Board pre-GA meeting	Brussels	newing@concordeurope.org
U 26-27 November	General Assembly	Brussels	newing@concordeurope.org
28 November (a.m.)	Advisory Group meeting	Brussels	aphilippart@concordeurope.org

DECEMBER

1 December	Food Security Working Group	Brussels	nerea.craviotto@concordeurope.org
2 December	Civil Society Contact Group	Brussels	oconsolo@concordeurope.org
4 December	Cotonou Seminar	Paris	easin@concordeurope.org
5 December	EU-Africa conference organised by French NP	Paris	mcbain@coordinationsud.org
10-11 December	Board strategy meeting	Brussels	newing@concordeurope.org

2009

January (tbc)	Global Facilitation Group on CSO effectiveness	Thailand	avogt@concordeurope.org
Spring (tbc)	Joint forum of the Food, Trade and Agriculture working groups	Brussels	nerea.craviotto@concordeurope.org

For further details on any of these CONCORD-related activities, please contact the CONCORD Secretariat or check the extranet: www.concordeurope.org

CONCORD DOCUMENTS OF THE MONTH

- ◆ CONCORD blip.tv: "Paroles d'Européens" video. On 30 October, during the conference entitled "Regards du Monde sur l'Europe" (World Views on Europe), Gérard Karlshausen, CONCORD Board member, explains (in French) that the European Union should stop talking to itself and have a real dialogue with civil society. He also stresses that the development aid provided for developing countries by the European Union is counteracted by the dumping caused by EU trade policies, which are aggravating the situation in these countries: <http://concordeurope.blip.tv/file/1451746>
- ◆ CONCORD press releases: [Don't forget world hunger, urge development NGOs – 15 October 2008](#)
- ◆ Joint CONCORD – EPLO – VOICE – HRDN position on: [Civil Society Expectations of the European External Action Service – 5 October 2008](#)
- ◆ CONCORD [Working Groups' Newsletter No. 10 – 1st six months of 2008](#): all you need to know about the work of CONCORD's ten working groups between January and July 2008.
- ◆ DEEEP's new Advocacy Toolkit: How can you persuade decision-makers to support development education? The brand-new DEEEP Advocacy Toolkit provides solid arguments and strategic advice on how to promote development education to politicians and state authorities and within civil society organisations. The toolkit will be updated regularly to include the latest data and evidence: <http://www.deeep.org/advocacytoolkit.html>
- ◆ Don't forget the new website on CSO Development effectiveness, on the effectiveness of civil society organisations working in development. Your comments are welcome. Contact: Franz Berger: franz.berger@concordeurope.org



OTHER NEWSLETTERS

- ◆ Take 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* provides information on upcoming events, resources and publications related to development education, and features a range of articles on funding opportunities for development NGOs.
- ◆ [CSCG](#) (EU Civil Society Contact Group): the CSCG brings together eight large European NGO platforms in the following fields: culture (EFAH), development (CONCORD), 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 EU institutions as an essential part of strengthening participatory democracy.
- ◆ Euforic News: [click here to subscribe](#) and find out the latest news about development.