

Ms Gunilla Carlsson  
Minister for International Development Cooperation  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs  
Government Offices of Sweden  
SE-103 39 Stockholm  
Sweden

15/03/2012

Dear Minister Carlsson

**Including progress on aid transparency within Sweden's Open Government Partnership Action Plan**

As Sweden prepares to submit its Open Government Partnership (OGP) Action Plan for April 2012 we the undersigned civil society organisations are writing to encourage you to take this opportunity to build on both the aid transparency commitments<sup>i</sup> made at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF-4) in December 2011 and your progress within the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) process.

As you know, the main challenge Sweden aims to address through its OGP Action Plan - to *more effectively manage public resources*<sup>ii</sup> – can be appropriately applied to aid transparency. We therefore anticipate seeing more specific action points relating to aid transparency included within Sweden's OGP Action Plan.

Through the commitments already delivered by OGP founding members, including the U.K and U.S., the links between the OGP and IATI agenda's have been made explicit<sup>iii</sup>, as has the potential for OGP participation to complement the IATI process and vice versa. Thus it might be appropriate to include the following intentions within Sweden's OGP Action Plan:

- Continuing to improve Sweden's IATI data – particularly by publishing 2011 data;
- Setting a timetable for publication of development-related flows, including climate finance;
- Implementing IATI fully by December 2015.

We look forward to working with you and your officials in the future as Sweden continues to make progress in this important area.

Yours sincerely

Magnus Falklöf, Director, CONCORD Sweden

Bo Forsberg, Secretary General, Diakonia

Warren Krafchik, Director, International Budget Partnership and member of the IATI Steering Committee

Brian Tomlinson, Open Forum on CSO Development Effectiveness, IATI Steering Committee member and co-Chair of the IATI CSO Working Group

Karin Christiansen, Managing Director, Publish What You Fund and member of the IATI Steering Committee

Beris Gwynne, Partnership Leader for Global Accountability, World Vision International. Member of the INGO Charter of Accountability Board, representative on the CSO Open Forum on Development Effectiveness International CSO Advisory Group and co-Chair of the IATI CSO Working Group



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<sup>i</sup> § 23 c of the Final Busan Outcome Document agreed on 1st December 2011

([http://www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/images/stories/hlf4/OUTCOME\\_DOCUMENT\\_FINAL\\_EN.pdf](http://www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/images/stories/hlf4/OUTCOME_DOCUMENT_FINAL_EN.pdf))

outlines the commitment to:

*'Implement a common, open standard for electronic publication of timely, comprehensive and forward-looking information on resources provided through development co-operation, taking into account the statistical reporting of the OECD-DAC and the complementary efforts of the International Aid Transparency Initiative and others. This standard must meet the information needs of developing countries and non-state actors, consistent with national requirements. We will agree on this standard and publish our respective schedules to implement it by December 2012, with the aim of implementing it fully by December 2015.'*

<sup>ii</sup> Sweden's letter of Intent to OGP (15/09/2011), <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/countries/sweden>

<sup>iii</sup> For example the U.K made the following OGP Commitment on 19/12/2011

(<http://www.opengovpartnership.org/countries/united-kingdom>):

*We will publish aid information from all government departments who spend overseas development assistance (ODA) in line with the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standards, extending*

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*coverage to other departments in addition to the Department for International Development. Within 12 months, we will have agreed a clear timetable for publication of aid information with relevant departments.*