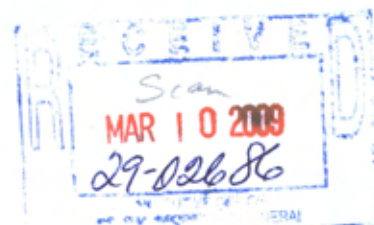


17/4/09 in action 12/03/09

ODSG

DSG



**Note to the Deputy Secretary-General**

**Rule of Law Donor Coordination and Coherence Meeting**

1. The Rule of Law Unit, in coordination with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), is organizing a meeting on donor coordination and coherence in the field of rule of law. The United Kingdom Permanent Mission is also involved in the planning for the meeting. The meeting will be held on 20-21 April 2009 in New York and will bring together approximately 70 representatives from the UN system, bilateral donors and relevant organizations in the rule of law field.
2. The meeting follows-up on the Secretary-General's recommendation that rule of law assistance providers foster consensus on assistance policies, applying the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness to rule of law assistance and establish donor coordination structures to support coherent and well-resourced rule of law efforts. (*Strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities*, A/63/226). This meeting builds on the outcome of prior events, including the meeting organized by the DFID and the Open Society Justice Initiative in Brussels in April 2008.
3. The meeting aims to: (1) take stock of donors' experiences of and approaches to rule of law assistance, with a view to seeking common policy ground; (2) develop ideas for improving donor coherence, knowledge management and the measurement of the effectiveness of rule of law assistance; and (3) explore agreement on a set of recommended actions to improve the coordination and coherence of rule of law assistance, with a view to implementation and review of progress thereafter.
4. The Rule of Law Unit will be paying for the hospitality costs of the meeting, including travel costs for some participants, with a total estimated cost of \$75,500. The resources will be drawn from the Trust Fund to Support Coordination and Coherence of the Rule of Law Activities of the United Nations System. I will be grateful for your sign-off for the use of these funds for this activity.
5. The expert-level of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group have provided input into the meeting concept paper and an update on the meeting will be on the agenda of the next meeting of the Principals of the Group (tentatively scheduled for 30 March 2008).



Jamal Benomar  
Rule of Law Unit  
10 March 2008