



## Civil Society Dialogue Network Policy Meeting

# Capacity building in support of security and development: Gathering civil society input

Thursday 12 March 2015 (09.00-13.00)

Martin's Brussels EU Hotel, Boulevard Charlemagne / Karel de Grotelaan 80, 1000 Brussels

## CONCEPT NOTE

### Background

In conclusions adopted following its discussion on the outlook for the Common Security and Defence Policy in November 2014, the EU's Foreign Affairs Council:

'agreed on next steps regarding the initiative to support capacity building of partner countries and regional organisations in order to enable them to increasingly prevent and manage crises by themselves, inviting the High Representative and the Commission to present, in view of the European Council in June 2015, a joint proposal for a policy approach for concrete implementation.'<sup>1</sup>

Dialogue and exchanges are currently taking place in order to feed the policy approach which could be a major deliverable to the June European Council, and which includes a proposed joint European Commission (EC) and European External Action Service (EEAS) communication.

### Objective

The overall objective of this meeting is to gather analysis and recommendations from civil society on the issues and approaches involved in building the capacity of the EU's partners in support of security and development.

### Participants

The meeting will bring together 20-30 participants, including representatives of civil society peacebuilding organisations, and officials from both the EC and the EEAS.

Other interested parties, including representatives from the European Parliament (EP), academics and other experts will also be invited to participate.

### Format

The meeting will consist of two sessions. In each session, initial presentations from one or maximum two speakers will be followed by an open discussion in which all participants will be encouraged to engage.

#### Civil Society Dialogue Network

The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a mechanism for dialogue between civil society and EU policy-makers on issues related to peace and conflict. It is co-financed by the European Union (Instrument for Stability). It is managed by the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), a civil society network, in co-operation with the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS). The second phase of the CSDN will last from 2014 to 2016. For more information, please visit the [EPLO website](http://www.eplo.eu).

<sup>1</sup> See [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms\\_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/145816.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/145816.pdf)

# DRAFT AGENDA

08.30 – 09.00	<b>Registration of participants</b>
09.00 – 09.15	<b>Welcome</b>  <i>Ben Moore – European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)</i>  <i>Denisa-Elena Ionete – Unit for Fragility and Resilience,            DG Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid, European Commission (EC)</i>  <i>Andrew Charlton – Division for Integrated Strategic Planning,            European External Action Service (EEAS)</i>
09.15 – 10.45	<b>Session 1: State of play in the area of capacity building in support of security and development</b>  The aim of this session will be for the EC and the EEAS to give an overview of current EU engagement and policy initiatives in the area of capacity building in support of security and development, and for participants to provide their initial assessment of possible future EU action in this area.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>What is the scope of future EU action in this area?</u></li> <li>• <u>What is feasible?</u></li> <li>• <u>What is legitimate?</u></li> <li>• <u>What are the risks and opportunities involved?</u></li> </ul> <i>Moderator: Ben Moore</i>  <i>Introduction by officials from the EC and the EEAS</i>  Open discussion
10.45 – 11.15	<b>Coffee break</b>
11.15 – 12.45	<b>Session 2: Focusing on key policy issues</b>  The aim of this session will be to focus on specific policy issues and options, and for participants to provide analysis of and recommendations on them.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>What does capacity development in support of security and development involve and which principles should underly future EU action in this area?</u></li> <li>• <u>What are the key elements for increasing both the sustainability and coherence of the EU's support for building its partners' capacities in the security sector?</u></li> <li>• <u>To what extent should development funding be used to finance peace and security activities in the EU's partner countries?</u></li> <li>• <u>What are appropriate oversight and risk management frameworks for the EU's wider engagement with its partner countries' security institutions?</u></li> </ul> <i>Moderator: Brie O'Keefe – Saferworld</i>  <i>Introduction by officials from the EC and the EEAS</i>  Open discussion
12.45 – 13.00	<b>Closing Remarks</b>   <i>Denisa-Elena Ionete</i>  <i>Andrew Charlton</i>