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**Eurodad reaction to
the European**

Commission's Communication on A Global Partnership for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development after 2015

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5 February 2015

Responding to the Communication from the European Commission, Tove Maria Ryding, Coordinator for Tax Justice at Eurodad, said:

"The announcement made by the European Commission on poverty eradication and sustainable development post-2015 is astonishing because of its complete lack of ambition and because it dodges all the most difficult questions.

While the European Commission is eager to talk about new sustainable development goals, it looks like they are trying to avoid answering the question of how to finance these goals. In particular, they aren't answering the question of what the EU will bring to the negotiating table.

The EU is playing a dangerous game, which could ultimately lead to the collapse of global negotiations on the post-2015 agenda as well as a new global climate treaty.

"The European Commission has suggested that the EU could recommit to the target of delivering 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) in official development assistance within a given timeline. While we very much welcome a renewed discussion about how and when the EU can fulfil its commitments, we don't think that recommitting to a 40-year-old target gives the EU the right to call itself a global leader.

"Developing countries have called for a number of different outcomes, including for developed countries to fulfil their old aid commitments, for a solution to the debt crisis and for a new global UN body to fix the global tax system.

"The reason why the European Commission is being so unambitious could be related to the rumour that the EU will try to keep its true negotiating position secret in order to appear to be a tougher negotiator. Although we hope it's true that the EU has more to offer than what we've heard today, we also find it tragic if the EU is wasting valuable negotiating time that could have been spent engaging in a constructive dialogue with developing countries focused on finding global solutions to the world's problems.

"The developing countries have made it clear that they don't want to be the only ones to take on new commitments, and they want a negotiation about financing for development. Unless the EU becomes more ambitious, there is a very real risk that international negotiations will collapse. This could cost us both the sustainable development goals, as well as the new global climate treaty, which is supposed to be agreed at the end of this year."

ENDS

For more information, or to request an interview, please contact Julia Ravenscroft, Communications Manager at Eurodad, on +32 2 893 0854.

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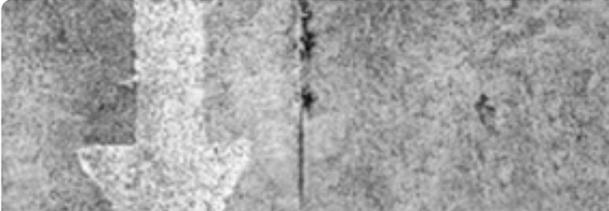


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