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LIMITE DEVGEN NDICI RELEX ACP

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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Development cooperation and international partnerships
Subject:	Coordination and engagement between Commission and Member States in the implementation of NDICI-Global Europe - Presentation

In view of CODEV-PI (Subgroup on NDICI-Global Europe) on 8 May 2025, please find enclosed a presentation prepared by the Commission services and the EEAS.



Coordination and engagement between Commission and Member States in the implementation of NDICI-Global Europe

CODEV-PI Working Party NDICI-GE sub group 8 May 2025

International Partnerships

Background

The proposed actions build on the exchanges between Member States, the Commission, the EEAS, in the bilateral meetings and the seminar on 19 February, organised following the "joint statement on the lack of involvement of Member States in the MTR process".

The proposed actions would be implemented starting from Q2-2025, and are divided in:

- Actions to ensure opportunities for strategic steer in the Council and with Member States,
- Actions to coordinate in a Team Europe approach in the field,
- Actions related to comitology



Actions to ensure opportunities for strategic steer in the Council and with Member States

With the aim of ensuring efficiency and coherent and integrated positioning across *filières*, the Council Presidency aims to :

- Encourage better **flow of information/coordination** between Council Working Parties (cf. CODEV-COMBUD / CODEV-COELA-RESUA, CODEV-geographic WPs)
- Enhance the practice of **joint sessions** of the working parties in the Council (ex: CODEV-RELEX or CODEV and geographic WPs)
- Simplify the **governance** (ex. the CODEV/RELEX distinction is proving not always efficient)



Actions to ensure opportunities for strategic steer in the Council and with Member States

In order to ensure proper opportunities for strategic steer, COM and EEAS aim to:

- Submit supporting documents the week before the Council meeting, for agenda points known at least two weeks in advance, where such documents are needed for the discussions in CODEV and RELEX.
- Jointly with the RELEX and relevant geographic WPs, schedule twice per year discussions in CODEV/NDICI fed by a state of play of NDICI-GE implementation, including the newly created regional envelopes post-MTR (i.e. Support to Investments and Actions in complex settings) and by information from the ground on specific Team Europe initiatives/GG flagship projects. Commission and Member States would present their respective activities.
- Reinforce the informal support/contribution of EU DGx/DEN and make them more interactive by providing space for brainstorming, therefore respecting the Council strategic steer and decision-making.



Actions to ensure opportunities for strategic steer in the Council and with Member States

- To revitalise **FAC-DEV**, EEAS and COM aim to:
 - Have more political agendas, focussed on items that require political guidance and more pressing issues, seeking operational conclusions.
 - Encourage better articulation with other Council formations.
 - Share the agenda of FAC-DEV earlier with Member States.
 - Involve Member States early in the meetings' preparation, information sharing in the relevant Council Working Party and/or Coreper.
 - Produce joint with Member States operational conclusions and statements to ensure prompt follow-up





Actions to coordinate in a Team Europe approach in the field

To coordinate Team Europe approach in the field, COM, EEAS, and Member States aim to:

 When relevant, make sure that whenever instructions/guidance are sent to Delegations, they clearly task staff at the Delegations to actively inform and engage Member States at the country level (including non-resident Member States whenever relevant). At the same time, Member States to instruct their embassies to coordinate closely with EU Delegations.

• And, at country level, EU Delegations and Member States' embassies aim to:

- Propose initiatives and identify the most relevant milestones for Team Europe missions to be organised and in coordinating communication efforts
- Include, when relevant, Global Gateway and NDICI implementation as standing points on the agenda of Heads of Missions and Heads of Cooperation meetings at country level.
- Appoint a colleague from HQ or in another embassy covering the geographic area and notify DG INTPA HQ (Unit D1) or DG ENEST HQ (ENEST 01) or DG MENA, who will inform the concerned Delegation, and will in turn make sure to keep the contact person informed of key developments (in case Member States are not represented in a country of particular interest for them).

European

Actions related to comitology

In comitology, the Commission aims to:

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- Organise once a year a point under each NDICI committee format to take stock of financing instrument **implementation** and to present the **indicative planning** for the year ahead
- Harmonise the way the various formats of the NDICI committee function regardless of the chairperson through drawing and sharing best practices. For instance:
 - Provide a more detailed contextual introduction before the discussion items.
 - For formats having regular meetings, conclude every meeting by providing, as a chairperson's announcement, tentative information on the agendas of the next meeting.
 - Annex the paper of Q&A to the minutes
 - At the beginning of each agenda item, the chair or the presenter of the item should recall the written questions raised by Member States if any, so that Member States can refer to them during the meeting.



Actions related to comitology

In comitology, the Commission aims to:

 $\times -$

- Encourage the use of hybrid formats, which enables Member States to optimise time and travel. For formats having
 more than one meeting per year, encourage in person participation at least once a year to foster exchanges of views
 and to integrate the Team Europe spirit
- Continue the timely **submission of documents** 20 days before the committee meeting. Bearing in mind the limited administrative capacities of smaller Member States, rationalise the amount of documentation while ensuring clear and concise communication.
- Limit the use of "jumbo decisions" leading to block voting to the extent possible.
- Conclude, when relevant, the discussions on country or region-specific committee agenda points with a Team Europe/Team Europe initiatives/Global Gateway flagship projects focus where Member States are expected to share their relevant actions, in view of a two-way information flow and positive synergies
- Process and submit the **minutes** maximum one week after the committee meeting to be adopted in a written procedure (silence procedure).
- Avoid **urgent written procedures** to the extent possible







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