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INFORMATION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Development cooperation and international partnerships
Subject:	Indicative CODEV-PI work programme of the Danish Presidency (1 July - 31 December 2025)

Please find enclosed, for information, the indicative CODEV-PI work programme of the Danish Presidency (1 July - 31 December 2025).

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Indicative Work Programme 1 July – 31 December 2025

Danish Presidency of the CODEV-PI Working Party



**Danish
Presidency**
Council of the
European Union

Introduction

The Danish Presidency comes at a time when the EU stands in a new international order marked by insecurity, global strategic and economic competition, and a heightened level of conflict. This is causing changes to the established global development order. Unpredictability and geopolitical upheavals seriously affect development cooperation and progress but also provide openings for the EU to rethink its strategic orientation and approach to cooperation.

The EU should chart its own course. Engaging in global development contributes to a strong, safe and globally engaged Europe. It strengthens the promotion and defence of European interests, incl. security and competitiveness, as well as the rules-based international order. The Danish Presidency will work to ensure that the EU engages where the impact is greatest, standing firm as a reliable and predictable partner amid geopolitical and geo-economic challenges.

Traditional donor-recipient partnerships can no longer ensure the relation that the EU wants to maintain with partner countries. Implications of US tariffs on developing countries, and increasing trade tension more generally, will be profound and offer both opportunities and challenges for EU partnerships around the world. The EU therefore needs to move towards an approach to development cooperation that is more integrated into the Union's efforts aimed at projecting its geopolitical presence and building long-term international partnerships of equals based on mutual interests. This needs to be done in a Team Europe approach.

The Danish Presidency will uphold equal and mutually beneficial partnerships that support sustainable development. Coordination across policy areas will be essential. Countries and regions differ, from fragile and unstable to growing and transitioning. This requires tailored interventions using a broad range of tools. Devising integrated programmes to tackle the increasing number of global crises is necessary and will also strengthen coordination across the EU's external action instruments. The Presidency will work for a European development approach that leaves no-one behind while continuing to commit to defending human rights and supporting civil society worldwide.

Negotiations on the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for external action will be opened during our presidency term. The first discussions will set the direction for the continued negotiations over the coming years on how the EU realises its interests and influence in the world, while remaining a reliable partner for developing countries, particularly in the poorest and most vulnerable ones.

MAIN PRIORITIES

International Partnerships of Equals

Partner countries are calling for broad engagement that goes beyond traditional development projects. They want more political dialogue on difficult global issues, more trade, more investment as well as better opportunities for exchange and mobility. It is therefore timely to challenge routine thinking and explore new trajectories that also hold the potential to further increase the political weight of EU's international partnerships, contributing to strengthening the EU's global relations as well as its geopolitical and geo-economic presence and weight.

The Danish Presidency will present an overview of the different partnership models currently financed through NDICI-GE, and look into their potential for promoting mutually beneficial partnerships of equals, capable of taking specific needs into account (tailor-made), and ensuring coherence. These include comprehensive partnerships, strategic partnerships, sector specific partnerships (forests, energy) and their links to new initiatives such as the Clean Trade and

Investment Partnerships. We will also explore opportunities for better synergies, notably in regard to human development and the green and digital transition, between these partnership models, Global Gateway and partnerships based on more traditional forms of cooperation (in particular in fragile countries and difficult contexts).

During the Danish Presidency, CODEV-PI will, to the extent required, support preparations of the AU-EU and CELAC summits in a Team Europe approach.

The Presidency will in general work on engaging with partners from across the multilateral development system, support the ongoing work of the CONUN working party in addressing the call for reforms of the UN development agencies and explore EU engagement in multilateral development settings. This should be seen in light of the results of the USA review of their engagement in international organisations to be published during the Danish Presidency. It will also be addressed how the future engagement of the USA in the International Financing Institutions could evolve.

Financing development

The promotion of international partnerships of equals is closely linked to the financing of development efforts. With the widespread cuts in ODA and against the backdrop of a widening SDG financing gap, the EU must work for innovative solutions for an efficient and effective use of funds in order to remain a reliable and predictable partner. We will work in a Team Europe approach to identify future financing models that effectively support partnerships based on sustainable and inclusive economic growth and advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs in partner countries.

The CODEV-PI working party will take stock of international development financing, seeking deeper knowledge of the current financing instruments applied by EU, including guarantees, blending and Macro-Financial Assistance. We will also explore how and when partners could be encouraged to engage and provide input to the process over the coming years, taking account of partner countries' diverse capacities. CODEV-PI will examine the outcomes of the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) in Seville in June/July 2025, and discuss their possible implications for the EU's external action and the European financial architecture for development, as well as for the reforms of the international financial architecture, the Pact for the Future, the Paris Agreement and other relevant international frameworks.

The Danish Presidency will be ready to initiate negotiations on the proposal for financing the EU's future development cooperation and international partnerships in connection with a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) after 2027.

HORIZONTAL PRIORITIES

Tailor-made Integrated Approaches

Countries and regions are different. They vary from fragile, politically unstable countries to growing and transitioning countries. Moving towards a comprehensive partnership approach, the EU must be capable of tailoring its offer according to each specific situation and to the needs of partner countries and work in a more integrated manner across traditional sector and policy divides through the Team Europe approach.

The Danish Presidency will also look at how the EU's development partnerships can best address the key root causes of fragility, irregular migration and forced displacement, and how to promote better synergies between actors, especially related to existing Team Europe Initiatives on the

main migration routes towards the EU. We will go into depth with the rights-based approach to migration-related support.

ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

Working Methods FAC-DEV

Future FAC/Development Council meetings will have to be more political, action-oriented, impactful, and strategic. This will require that CODEV-PI also becomes more strategic by focusing on the realisation of its core mandate.

Gender Equality

The working party will examine the evaluation of the GAP III and provide a forward-looking response to the recommendations.

Global Health

The first bi-annual report to the Council, the European Parliament and civil society on the implementation of EU's Global Health Strategy was published in May 2025. CODEV-PI will examine the main findings based on a presentation from the Commission services and the European External Action Service.

NDICI-GLOBAL-EUROPE SUBGROUP

In the NDICI-GE subgroup, the Working Party will receive updates on the financial execution of the instrument, including on the state of the use of the rapid response pillar and of the cushion, as well as updates on the NDICI-GE targets, following the publication of the Annual Report. An overview of possible flexibilities would be useful in light of the expected USA withdrawal from most international financial commitments.

The subgroup will also continue the follow-up to the mid-term review of NDICI-GE programming and prepare for a change in the NDICI-GE regulation concerning the simplification of the External Action Guarantee.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCES SUBGROUP

CODEV-PI will be debriefed on the outcome of The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), which will take place in Seville from 30 June to 3 July 2025. The Presidency is also planning Team Europe Messages for the World Bank / IMF Annual Meetings and (de)briefings from COP30, UNCTAD 16, as well as the UN Social Summit.

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

As a simplification, with the necessary flexibility applied, the Danish Presidency will propose a single set of Council Conclusions, covering the following topics:

- 1) Official Development Assistance figures 2024;
- 2) Global Health first bi-annual report;

- 3) Two ECA special reports expected during the Presidency; one on Aid for Trade and one on Fighting Hunger;
- 4) The GAP III evaluation, proposing elements for the upcoming GAP IV.

CALENDAR

CODEV-PI foreseen meetings

The regular schedule of Monday morning and afternoon and Thursday morning sessions will be maintained.

July	August	September	October	November	December
3, 7, 10, 14,	No meetings	8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25	2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23	3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 24, 27	(1), (4), 8, 11, 15

The Danish Presidency will systematically explore opportunities for cooperation with other relevant Working Parties (including COHAFA, RELEX – Horizontal Questions (Global Gateway), FICO, ACP, and CONUN as well as COAFR and COLAC).

High-level events

- **Informal meeting of EU Development Directors**
1-2 September 2025, Copenhagen
- **Informal meeting of EU Development Ministers**
29-30 September 2025, Copenhagen
- **Formal meeting of EU Development Ministers**
21 November 2025, Brussels

Other events

- **Presentation of the Presidency Programme in the DEVE Committee**
15 July 2025, European Parliament, Brussels
- **Opening reception of the CODEV-PI and ACP Working Parties**
9 September 2025, Permanent Representation of Denmark to the EU, Brussels
- **COHAFA-led joint field trip with CODEV-PI**
1-5 December 2025, Kenya

Side-events

- **Informal event marking the preparation of the negotiations on the next external financing instrument with the participation of Centre for Global Development**
17 July 2025, Permanent Representation of Denmark to the EU, Brussels
- **Joint MOCADDEM and CODEV-PI seminar with Danish Institute of Human Rights on migration support in a rights-based perspective.**
3 October 2025, Permanent Representation of Denmark to the EU, Brussels

DOCUMENTS

Elements of council conclusions

- European Court of Auditors Special Report: “Aid for Trade”
- European Court of Auditors Special Report: “Fighting Hunger”
- Mid-term evaluation of the EU Gender Action Plan III
- Bi-annual Global Health Strategy Report

Other documents

- Team Europe Messages for the World Bank Annual Meetings

DANISH CODEV-PI PRESIDENCY TEAM

CODEV-PI Chair:

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CODEV-PI Deputy Chair:

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Danish CODEV-PI Delegate:

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