



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Council conclusions on Annual Report 2012 to the European Council on EU Development Aid Targets

*3166th FOREIGN AFFAIRS Council meeting
Brussels, 14 May 2012*

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

- "1. The Council welcomes the publication by the Commission of information for 2011 on EU Official Development Assistance (ODA)¹, analysing the trends in EU aid with regard to the collective and individual ODA commitments². The Council stresses that ODA is an essential and catalytic element in the overall development financing available for developing countries.
2. On 17 June 2010 the European Council requested the Council to make an annual report on the EU and Member States' commitments and delivery on ODA. This is the second report of this kind to be forwarded to the European Council.
3. Bearing the above in mind, the Council wishes to report the following elements to the European Council:
 - a. In 2011, in the face of continued budgetary constraints owing to the ongoing crisis, the EU collective ODA decreased from €53.5 billion in 2010 to €53.1 billion. This €400 million reduction in support to developing countries brings the EU ODA level to 0.42% of GNI, down from the 2010 outcome of 0.44% of GNI.
 - b. Nevertheless, the EU has maintained its position as the biggest global ODA donor, accounting again for over half of the total ODA to developing countries (see Figure 1). Global ODA by the OECD/DAC donors fell by €1 billion from 2010 to 2011, to a total of €96 billion.

¹<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/348&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=fr>

² As summarised in the First Annual Council report to the European Council on EU Development Aid Targets (doc. 10593/1/11).

P R E S S

- c. The above decrease reflects the mixed performance of Member States. Sixteen Member States increased their aid by a total of €2.2 billion, which was offset by a €2.6 billion decrease in eleven Member States. Similarly to 2010, nine Member States remain above their 2010 intermediate individual targets. Four of these Member States have already met or exceeded the 0.7% ODA/GNI target (see Figure 2).
 - d. Looking to 2015, Commission estimates show that without substantial additional efforts by most Member States to fulfil their individual commitments, the EU ODA would increase only to 0.45% of GNI by that time. To reach the collective EU target of 0.7% of GNI by 2015 ¹, the EU and its Member States will have to mobilise an additional amount of approximately €46 billion that would practically double the 2011 ODA (Table 1).
4. The Council confirms its comprehensive approach to supporting developing countries in mobilising development financing from all available sources and foresees a broader discussion on the various elements of financing for development ² on the basis of the 2012 EU Accountability Report on Financing for Development.
 5. On that basis, conscious of the exceptional budgetary circumstances, the Council expresses serious concern about ODA levels and, therefore, reaffirms its continuous commitment and political leadership to achieve EU development aid targets. In this light:
 - a. The EU and its Member States remain committed to increase their collective aid spending to 0.7% of GNI by 2015 and reaffirm all their individual and collective ODA commitments.³
 - b. Member States are invited to take realistic, verifiable actions for meeting individual ODA commitments by 2015 and to share information on these actions and their planned ODA spending for the next budgetary year, as well as on their intentions for the remaining period until 2015, taking into account that these issues fall within the competence of Member States. The four Member States above the 0.7% level will maintain their efforts. The five Member States above their 2010 individual target will continue the actions to ensure reaching their 2015 targets. The eighteen Member States that have not yet reached their individual targets for 2010 are urged to deploy the necessary additional efforts to meet their 2015 targets.
 - c. The EU and its Member States call on all other international donors – including new and emerging partners – to raise their level of ambition and to increase their ODA efforts to a level similar to the EU, thus contributing their fair share to the global development efforts.

¹ Presidency Conclusions, European Council of 16 and 17 June 2005 (doc. 10255/1/05) and Council Conclusions of 10 and 11 November 2008 (doc. 15480/08).

² Defined at the March 2002 United Nations International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey Conference), it includes inter alia domestic resources mobilisation and debt sustainability, foreign direct investment and increased engagement of private sector, other private flows like migrants remittances, Official Development Assistance and other financing for global challenges, innovative financing and international systemic issues.

³ See Annex to the Annex.

Existing EU ODA Commitments and Targets

0.7% ODA/GNI (Council Conclusions, 24 May 2005 (doc. 9266/05), paragraph 4.)

‘Increased ODA is urgently needed to achieve the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals). the EU agrees to a new collective EU target of 0.56% ODA/ GNI by 2010, that would result in additional annual € 20 billion ODA by that time.

(i) Member States, which have not yet reached a level of 0.51% ODA/ GNI, undertake to reach, within their respective budget allocation processes, that level by 2010, while those that are already above that level undertake to sustain their efforts;

(ii) Member States, which have joined the EU after 2002, and that have not reached a level of 0.17% ODA/ GNI, will strive to increase their ODA to reach, within their respective budget allocation processes, that level by 2010, while those that are already above that level undertake to sustain their efforts.

(iii) Member States undertake to achieve the 0.7% ODA/ GNI target by 2015 whilst those which have achieved that target commit themselves to remain above that target; Member States which joined the EU after 2002 will strive to increase by 2015 their ODA/GNI to 0.33%.’

Africa (Council Conclusions, 24 May 2005 (doc. 9266/05), paragraph 22)

‘The EU will increase its financial assistance for Sub-Saharan Africa and will provide collectively at least 50% of the agreed increase of ODA resources to the continent while fully respecting individual Member States priorities’ in development assistance.’

LDC (Council conclusions, 31 March 2011 (Doc.7813/11), paragraph 10)

‘...the EU reaffirms its commitment, in the context of the above mentioned overall ODA commitment, to meeting collectively the target of 0.15 to 0.20% of GNP to the LDCs.’¹

¹ Original commitment in Council Conclusions of 10 and 11 November 2008 (doc. 15480/08)

Figure 1

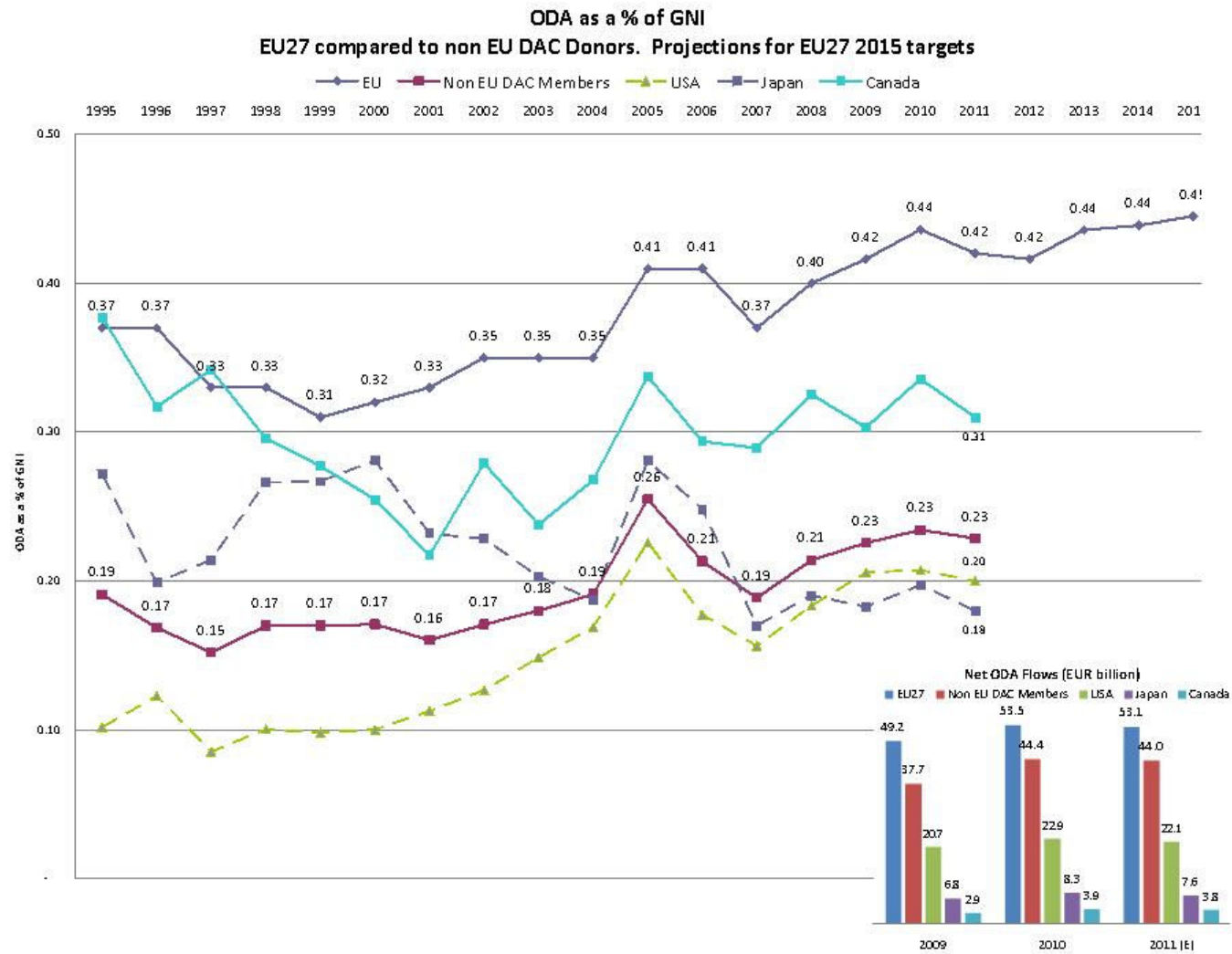
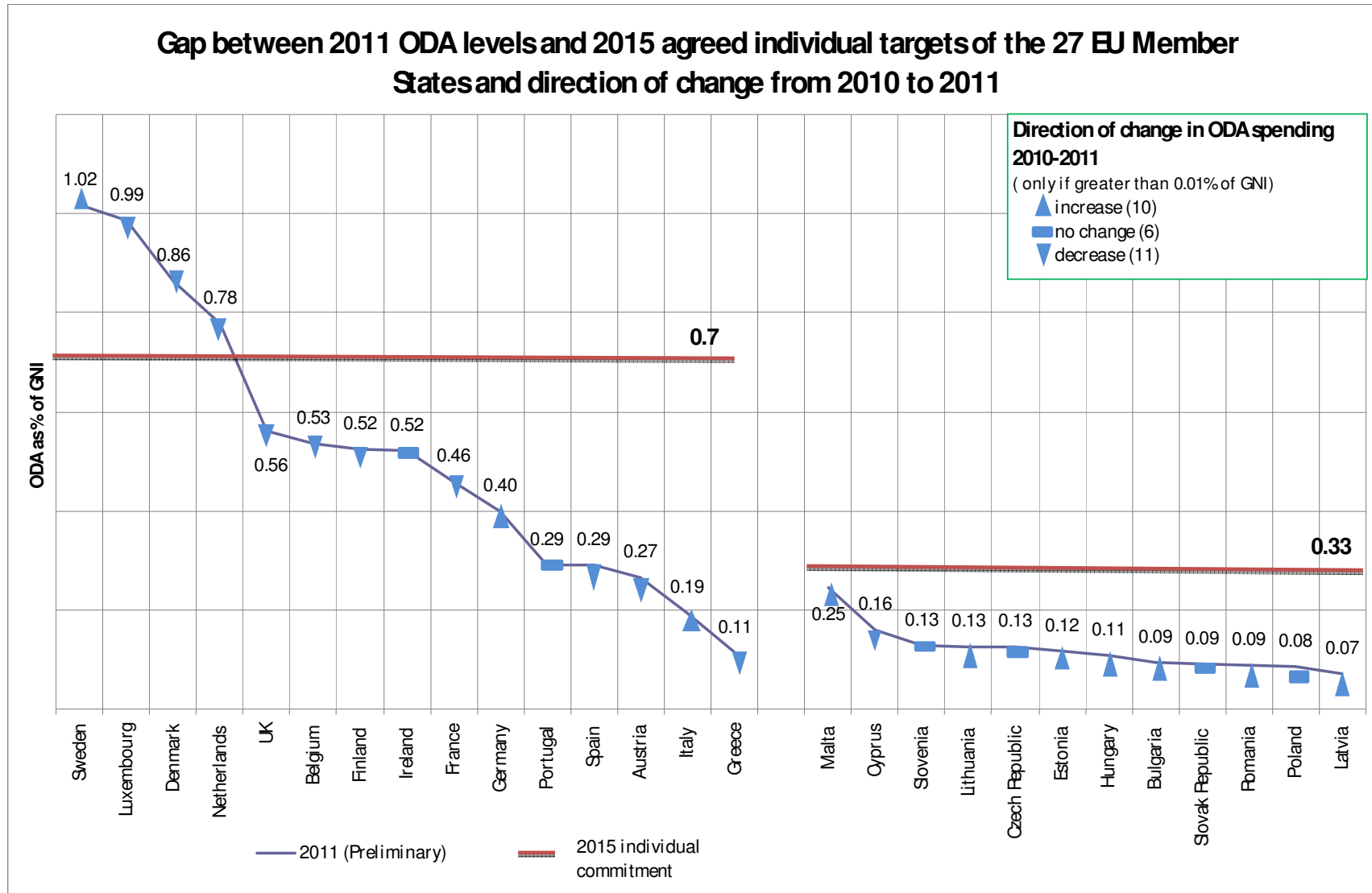


Figure 2



ANNEX III

Table 1 ODA levels of 2010-2011 and (a) projected ODA evolution in 2012-2015¹ and (b) gap to reach 2015 ODA targets

Member State	2010		2011 (preliminary)		Commission projections based on Member States figures where available, or on Commission estimates								2015 commitments		2015: Commission estimate of the gap from 2011 level to meet national targets
					2012 (forecast/ simulation)		2013 (forecast/ simulation)		2014 (forecast/ simulation)		2015 (forecast/ simulation)				
	EUR Million	% of GNI	EUR Million	% of GNI	EUR Million	% of GNI	EUR Million	% of GNI	EUR Million	% of GNI	EUR Million	% of GNI	EUR Million	% of GNI	EUR million
Austria	912	0.32	796	0.27	1,469	0.47	1,361	0.42	1,523	0.46	1,404	0.41	2,384	0.70	1,587
Belgium	2,268	0.64	2,014	0.53	2,172	0.56	2,040	0.51	2,083	0.50	2,972	0.70	2,977	0.70	964
Bulgaria	31	0.09	35	0.09	36	0.09	43	0.10	51	0.12	61	0.14	149	0.33	114
Cyprus	39	0.23	28	0.16	29	0.16	30	0.16	32	0.17	32	0.16	65	0.33	37
Czech Republic	172	0.13	184	0.13	184	0.13	182	0.12	194	0.13	209	0.13	533	0.33	349
Denmark	2,168	0.91	2,144	0.86	2,093	0.82	2,189	0.83	2,240	0.83	2,324	0.84	2,782	1.00	638
Estonia	14	0.10	18	0.12	21	0.13	23	0.14	27	0.15	30	0.17	60	0.33	42
Finland	1,006	0.55	1,013	0.52	1,124	0.56	1,129	0.54	1,134	0.52	1,160	0.52	1,563	0.70	550
France	9,751	0.50	9,345	0.46	10,461	0.51	10,168	0.48	10,376	0.48	10,588	0.47	15,657	0.70	6,312
Germany	9,804	0.39	10,452	0.40	10,728	0.40	11,230	0.41	11,757	0.42	12,307	0.42	20,288	0.70	9,836
Greece	383	0.17	238	0.11	222	0.11	207	0.10	193	0.09	180	0.08	1,548	0.70	1,310
Hungary	86	0.09	101	0.11	99	0.11	100	0.10	100	0.10	100	0.10	341	0.33	241
Ireland	676	0.52	650	0.52	639	0.51	644	0.50	697	0.52	699	0.50	978	0.70	328
Italy	2,262	0.15	3,050	0.19	1,880	0.12	2,755	0.17	2,783	0.17	2,811	0.16	12,086	0.70	9,036
Latvia	12	0.06	14	0.07	16	0.07	17	0.08	18	0.08	20	0.08	79	0.33	65
Lithuania	28	0.10	38	0.13	43	0.14	48	0.14	55	0.16	62	0.17	118	0.33	81
Luxembourg	304	1.05	297	0.99	295	1.00	306	1.00	316	1.00	328	1.00	328	1.00	31
Malta	10	0.18	14	0.25	16	0.27	18	0.29	20	0.31	22	0.33	22	0.33	8
The Netherlands	4,800	0.81	4,698	0.78	4,424	0.72	4,463	0.70	4,674	0.71	4,917	0.72	4,781	0.70	83
Poland	285	0.08	300	0.08	309	0.08	325	0.08	341	0.08	357	0.08	1,389	0.33	1,089
Portugal	490	0.29	481	0.29	471	0.29	513	0.31	558	0.33	607	0.35	1,219	0.70	738
Romania	86	0.07	118	0.09	125	0.09	136	0.09	148	0.09	161	0.10	538	0.33	420
Slovak Republic	56	0.09	62	0.09	69	0.10	66	0.09	67	0.09	69	0.09	260	0.33	198
Slovenia	44	0.13	45	0.13	51	0.14	54	0.15	59	0.16	65	0.16	130	0.33	85
Spain	4,492	0.43	3,067	0.29	2,405	0.23	2,409	0.22	2,414	0.21	2,418	0.21	8,136	0.70	5,069
Sweden	3,423	0.97	4,032	1.02	4,058	0.98	4,248	0.99	4,462	1.00	4,688	1.02	4,587	1.00	555
UK	9,855	0.57	9,881	0.56	10,613	0.56	13,688	0.70	14,135	0.70	14,659	0.70	14,659	0.70	4,778
EU 15 TOTAL	52,594	0.46	52,159	0.45	53,053	0.44	57,351	0.46	59,343	0.47	62,064	0.47	93,973	0.72	41,814
EU 12 TOTAL	863	0.09	957	0.10	997	0.10	1,043	0.10	1,111	0.10	1,187	0.11	3,685	0.33	2,729
EU 27 TOTAL	53,457	0.44	53,115	0.42	54,050	0.42	58,394	0.44	60,454	0.44	63,251	0.45	97,658	0.69	44,543

The gray-shaded cells are Commission projections. Unshaded 2012-2015 forecasts are Member States projections.

Gap to collective 2015 target 0.7%
 Target in EUR million: 99,481
 Gap in EUR million: 46,366

Sources:

- For figures 1995 – 2011
 - for OECD members: OECD/ DAC, except the Netherlands' national data on 2011;
 - for non-OECD EU Member States: OECD/ DAC where available, otherwise Member States data.
- For figures 2012-2015*: Commission simulation is based on :
 - Member States' ODA estimates when available,
 - Commission projections using compound annual ODA growth rate for 2006-2011, except for Bulgaria and Romania where the reference period is 2007-2011, and except for Germany's data which is a Commission estimate based on the increase in the German 2012 federal budget for the BMZ and assumed equivalent increase for other elements of German ODA.
 - Official EU GNI data from the annual macro-economic database (AMECO) of the European Commission which is used in the discussions on the EU Multiannual Financing Framework 2014-2020."

* The Danish government has committed to the target of 1% but has not set a fixed timetable for reaching it.