

ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2010

Side Event Summary

The power of resources – tackling issues of financing for transition

New York, 13 July 2010

The panel discussion, co-chaired by India and Sweden, aimed at *initiating dialogue* among a diverse set of key players on how to enhance international engagement in post-conflict countries. The particular focus was on how to ensure that resources flow effectively to where it is most needed in post-conflict countries, in a predictable and timely manner.

The panelists, from India, Sierra Leone and from the OECD DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility, stressed that what lies at the core of peacebuilding is rebuilding trust in society. If the international community is serious about national ownership and leadership, the discussion should move from identifying gaps in aid modalities in transition contexts, to instead focus on needs at country level. Recognizing that finances affect priorities implies it is time to rethink the way of providing aid to post-conflict countries. Supporting countries in “building the building blocks of a state” requires political will and changes beyond tweaking of current aid instruments.