

CALL FOR EVIDENCE FOR THE BALANCE OF COMPETENCES

REVIEW:

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID REPORT

– QUESTIONS –

Open date: 6 December 2012 Closing date: 1 March 2013

Impact on the national interest

1. *What are the comparative advantages or disadvantages in these areas of the UK working through the EU, rather than working independently or through other international organizations?*

- ***There are both advantages and disadvantages. The advantages are more because UK will be able to send more experts to work through the EU to various countries. It will be easier for UK to provide the resources to EU to implement programmes on its behalf, it will reduce overhead costs of transactions, establishing project offices all over the world and employing personnel to work in these offices. On disadvantages, UK will not be able to be on the ground and appreciate the issues. UK will not be able to appreciate the need to increase resources where they are needed because the issues are not closer to them. UK will strengthen diplomatic ties with the nations when those countries realize that the aid is from UK and there will be more recognition and appreciation from the beneficiaries.***

Policy making and implementation through parallel competences

2. *What is the impact of the current system of parallel competences on policy making and implementation in these areas, especially in terms of:*

a) *efficiency, effectiveness and value for money;*

- ***There is value for money but the only fear is duplication of focus areas There is need to ensure that the areas of focus are not exactly the same in terms of strategies and activities. The issue of effectiveness and efficiency can be there is what I have said earlier is adhered to***

b) *transparency (including checks against fraud and corruption); and*

- ***There is no problem with transparency as long there are deliberate efforts to curb these practices***

b) *working with other international partner organizations (e.g. UN, World Bank etc.)?*

- ***There is effectiveness and efficiency in policy making and implementation because there is harmonization of issues and less competition and above all it is a matter of complementing each other's efforts***

Relationships between development cooperation/humanitarian aid and other policy areas

3. *How far do EU development policies complement and reinforce policies in areas such as trade, security, stability, human rights, environment, climate change etc., and vice versa?*

There are various Treaties within the EU community and agreements at international level which focus on the areas mentioned, various instruments and tools and also the various players within EU that have specific focus on the mentioned areas. There are international policies which the EU ensures that they are synchronized with national policies of various nations and that facilitates implementation of programmes in these areas.

Future options and challenges

4. *Bearing in mind the UK's policy objectives and international commitments, how might the UK benefit from the EU taking more or less action in these areas, or from more action being taken at the regional, national or international (e.g. UN, OECD, G20) level – either in addition or as an alternative to action at EU level?*

The UK will benefit a lot through EU because the EU will cast its net wider as the indicated by the case studies. The area of coverage is quite large as compared to a single nation like Britain. Using EU will benefit more people worldwide and at all levels.

5. *Are there ways in which the EU could use its existing competence in these areas differently, or in which the competence could be divided differently, that would improve policy making and implementation, especially in terms of:*

a) *efficiency, effectiveness and value for money;*

-should change their approach to policies and programmes

b) *transparency (including checks against fraud and corruption); and*

- Ensure that responsible institutions are involved and capacity building of personnel is included in the programmes

c) *working with other international partner organisations (e.g. UN, World Bank etc.)?consider pooling resources in similar areas of focus*

6. *What future challenges or opportunities might the UK face in the areas of development cooperation and humanitarian aid, and what impact might these have on questions of competence and the national interest?*

I don't see any challenges with the UK because the EU is well structured in this area. Infact UK will have opportunities because it will send its people who are experts in various areas of interventions

General

7. *Are there any general points on competence you wish to make which are not captured above?*

None