**BACKGROUND NOTE ON 2015 DEVELOPMENT FORUM**

The 2015 Development Forum in Tajikistan will mark the end of implementation of the National Development Strategy, 2015, and discussion of priority areas for country’s economic development till 2030. This Forum will ­bring together the Government of Tajikistan and the Development Coordination Council (DCC), currently chaired by the Asian Development Bank and comprised of 30 multilateral, bilateral and UN based agencies.

While reviewing the past development achievements and challenges, the Forum will focus on discussing the policies for improving Tajikistan’s economic efficiency, diversification and competitiveness in the region for the next 15 years.

The main policy message conveyed by the DCC to the Government of Tajikistan at the Development Forum will be to diversify and upgrade exports towards high value added products through extended government support to private sector development.

***Note on DCC***

*External assistance continues to play a significant role in the development of Tajikistan, which will require significant inputs from development partners to pursue its poverty reduction and economic development, and continue reforms and capacity-building. Development partners remain committed to work with the Government of Tajikistan (GoT) to support priorities expressed in the National Development Strategy, 2008-15 (NDS) and Tajikistan’s Living Standards Improvement Strategy, 2013-2015. In addition, they have committed to improving aid effectiveness, in accordance with the Paris Declaration, Accra Agenda and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation.*

*With an overall objective to strengthen aid effectiveness in Tajikistan, the Development Coordination Council (DCC) was established to facilitate information exchange and collaboration within the development community, as well as foster dialogue on shared priorities with the Government of Tajikistan. The DCC functions as development partners’ coordination mechanism with the GoT in support of the National Development Strategy 2008-15 and the Living Standards Improvement Strategy 2013-2015.*

*The Chair of the DCC serves as the spokesperson for development partners at formal meetings with the government and is the official point of contact on general coordination matters. The heads (or in their absence, deputies) of 30 bilateral, multilateral and UN agencies comprise the Council.*

*Since 2010, the DCC has intensified efforts to improve donor coordination and interaction with the government, working closely with the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT) and the State Committee on Investments and State Property Management (SCISPM).*