

**Dear Members of the G 0.7,
Dear Prime Minister David Cameron,
Dear Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt,
Dear Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt,**

Cc: Nikolai Wammen, Denmark Minister for European Affairs; Christian Friis Bach, Denmark Minister for Development Cooperation; Rt Hon. Justine Greening, UK Secretary of State for International Development, Rt Hon. George Osborne, UK Chancellor of the Exchequer; Rt Hon. David Lidington, Minister of State for Europe; Birgitta Ohlsson, Swedish Minister for EU Affairs

Re: Defending the EU development and humanitarian budget for 2014-2020

We welcome your continued leadership at national and European levels, in championing the 0.7 percent target for development aid as a minimum standard. Your commitment to meet, and in some cases exceed, this target means the difference between life and death for millions of the poorest people.

We are writing to ask you to oppose at the 7-8th February European Council the disproportionate cuts - compared to the European Commission's proposal- proposed by President van Rompuy to the EU development and humanitarian aid budget (*Heading 4, the European Development Fund, and the Emergency aid reserve*).

Ahead of the 7-8th February European Council, **we encourage you to join Luxembourg Prime Minister Juncker, and to speak out against these proposed cuts as the 'G0.7' group. Other EU nations must keep their aid promises, and setting limits on high-quality European aid now will be a barrier rather than the incentive that they need.**

EU aid is some of the most efficient, impactful and transparent aid in the world, as recognized by the OECD, the European Court of Auditors and independent organizations like Publish What You Fund. The EU aid budget costs only €0.50 per person per week. It has delivered significant results in recent years, including getting more than 10 million children into primary education. **It is hard to find many investments that have such a strong impact on the world's poorest while at the same time being in the interests of European countries.** According to a recent report by ODI and the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, a development and humanitarian aid budget at the level proposed by the European Commission could also increase EU GDP of €11.5 billion by 2020. And the vast majority of European citizens - 85% - believe that the EU should keep their promises to developing countries despite the economic crisis.

Cuts to the European Development Fund and Heading 4 are not going to solve the deadlock on the EU budget negotiations, but this money is a matter of life and death for the world's most vulnerable people.

We look forward to working with you in the crucial weeks leading up to the February Summit.

Yours sincerely,

The undersigned:

solidar

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together for global justice

Plan EU Office
Promoting child rights
to end child poverty

IPPF International
Planned Parenthood
Federation
European Network

CONCORD
Swedish and European CSOs for global development
Sweden

DIGNITY
DANSK
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MOD TORTUR

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Trócaire
Working for a just world.



DANISH
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NGO-Netværket for EU's udviklingspolitik
CONCORD
DANMARK



Afrikahandels Omsættelse

DfPA
The Danish Family
Planning Association



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