



Adviesraad inzake beleidscoherentie  
ten gunste van ontwikkeling  
Conseil consultatif sur la cohérence  
des politiques en faveur du développement

## Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development

# Report of the Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development for the period 26 June 2014- 26 June 2019

This report comes at the end of the mandate of the Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development. It presents the Council's vision on policy coherence together with an overview of its recommendations and recent developments in the field of policy coherence for development. It examines whether policy coherence for development mechanisms in general have worked and makes recommendations for the future.

### 1. What is Policy Coherence for Development (“PCD”)?

“Policy Coherence for Development” (PCD) is a concept that originated in the late 1980s and early 1990s, when it became apparent that the efforts of European development cooperation were hindered by other European policies. The best-known example is perhaps the European development aid to family agriculture in Africa, which was partly cancelled out by the EU's exports of cheap and subsidised European agricultural products. Policy coherence for development is therefore a matter of good governance and an approach that contributes to increasing the effectiveness of policies.

Public campaigns denouncing incoherence contributed in 1992 to the inclusion of a special article on this subject in the Maastricht Treaty. Article 208 of the current European Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) now states this:

*“The Union shall take account of the objectives of development cooperation in the policies that it implements which are likely to affect developing countries.”<sup>i</sup>*

The same article also defines the main objective of European development cooperation as follows:

*“the reduction and, in the long term, the eradication of poverty”.*

However, the Treaty on European Union (TEU) goes one step further<sup>ii</sup>. Art.3.§2 says:

*“The Union shall ensure consistency between the different areas of its external action and between these and its other policies.”*

Art. 21.2 lays down the objectives of the various components of external action:

*“The Union shall define and pursue common policies and actions, and shall work for a high degree of cooperation in all fields of international relations, in order to:  
(a) safeguard its values, fundamental interests, security, independence and integrity;*

*(b) consolidate and support democracy, the rule of law, human rights and the principles of international law;*  
*(c) preserve peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, with the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and with the aims of the Charter of Paris, including those relating to external borders;*  
*(d) foster the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of developing countries, with the primary aim of eradicating poverty;*  
*(e) encourage the integration of all countries into the world economy, including through the progressive abolition of restrictions on international trade;*  
*(f) help develop international measures to preserve and improve the quality of the environment and the sustainable management of global natural resources, in order to ensure sustainable development;*  
*(g) assist populations, countries and regions confronting natural or man-made disasters; and*  
*(h) promote an international system based on stronger multilateral cooperation and good global governance.”*

The whole of the EU’s external action therefore has a very broad task and the various components need to operate in a coherent manner. This means that the concept of *policy coherence for development* must also be interpreted in this broad sense and is not limited to poverty reduction as such.

## 2. Policy coherence for development in the Development Cooperation Law of 19 March 2013

After the recording of the convention principle in 1992, it took some time for it to be implemented in practice. Not until 2005 did the European Commission present its first concrete plan of action and the Council of the European Union confirmed policy coherence for development in the first European Consensus on Development<sup>iii</sup>.

In the meantime, the European Commission has devoted several reports<sup>iv</sup> to the application of policy coherence for development and the Council of the European Union has adopted several Council decisions<sup>v</sup>, with which the EU Member States have repeatedly endorsed policy coherence for development. In addition, several EU countries have incorporated the principle in their own laws, decisions and policies. Moreover, the OECD has also taken into account policy coherence for development and is making efforts to promote its implementation among its Member States<sup>vi</sup>.

In Belgium, policy coherence for development is included in the *Development Cooperation Law* of 2013<sup>vii</sup> and its subsequent implementing decrees.

Following the European treaties and recommendations of the OECD<sup>viii</sup>, the Belgian legislator has adopted a broad definition of policy coherence for development:

*“a process to ensure that the objectives and results of a government’s development cooperation policy are not undermined by that government’s policies in other areas that have an impact on developing countries, and that these other policies support development objectives where possible”.*

Belgian law defines policy coherence for development as a positive obligation, i.e. not only as “not undermining” but also as “contributing to” the objectives and results of development policy.

At the same time, Belgian law has given a broader objective to development policy than the EU:

*“Art. 3. The general objective of Belgian Development Cooperation is sustainable human development and, to this end, it undertakes actions that contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic growth in order to improve the living conditions of people in developing countries and their socio-economic and socio-cultural development, with a view to eradicating poverty, exclusion and inequality.*

*In this context, Belgian Development Cooperation also aims to strengthen the development capacity of the partners at all levels. [...]*

*Art. 4. In this context, Belgian Development Cooperation contributes to the general objective of developing and strengthening democracy and the rule of law, including good governance, as well as to respecting human dignity, human rights in all their dimensions and fundamental freedoms, with particular attention to combating all forms of discrimination.”*

Following and on the basis of the law, a Belgian system for policy coherence for development (PCD) has been drawn up, which would consist of:

- **An Inter-Ministerial Conference on PCD:** which brings together ministers from the federal and federated governments to coordinate the PCD efforts;
- an **interdepartmental working group on PCD** at the federal official level for the management of PCD in the federal government;
- A **PCD unit** in the Directorate-General for Development Cooperation, which oversees PCD on behalf of the Minister, chairs coordination meetings and participates in the PCD activities of the OECD and the EU;
- a **PCD Advisory Council** with members appointed among academics and in the umbrella organisations of the development organisations;
- a **Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) test** that is applied by every regulation for gender, sustainability, PCD, etc.
- the **Minister for Development Cooperation** who chairs the inter-ministerial conference and directs PCD through a PCD plan at the beginning of a new legislature<sup>x</sup>.

However, political circumstances have prevented this system from being fully implemented. For example, the Regions did not accept a separate Inter-Ministerial Conference on PCD. Together with the federal government, a joint declaration of intent has been made with regard to PCD<sup>x</sup>. In the course of 2018, the function of the interdepartmental PCD working group was de facto taken over by the existing interdepartmental working group on Sustainable Development. A PCD plan has not been adopted and no additional resources have been made available for the functioning of a PCD unit that was closed down in 2018.

At the same time, the government invested in preparing a strategy paper for a “*Comprehensive Approach*”. The implications of this approach are discussed in section 5 below.

### 3. The Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development (APCD), 26 June 2014 - 26 June 2019

The Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development (APCD) was established by Royal Decree of 2 April 2014<sup>xi</sup> in implementation of the Act of 19 March 2013 on Belgian Development Cooperation. The council consists of 8 effective and 8 substitute members and is composed equally of Dutch-speaking and French-speaking academics and members of non-governmental development organisations. The members of APCD have been appointed for a period of 5 years<sup>xii</sup>. The Council’s main task is to advise the Minister responsible for development cooperation on the extent to which the requirement for policy coherence for development is taken into account.

The Council met 28 times between 2014 and 2019 and issued 16 opinions. Two opinions were issued at the request of the minister responsible for development cooperation. The others were delivered by the APCD on its own initiative. These opinions cover a wide range of topics chosen on the basis of their political topicality and their relevance to Belgian policy (see list below). These opinions were passed on to the competent minister and to other ministers - also in the regions and communities - who are involved in the subjects discussed. In addition, the opinions were also delivered to Members of

Parliament, officials and non-governmental organisations. They were also published on the Council's website with a short summary: [www.ccpd-abco.be](http://www.ccpd-abco.be).

**During its mandate, the Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development adopted the following opinions:**

[Decision-making in trade policy](#), 13 November 2015

This opinion concerns Belgium's participation in the European Union's trade policy. It analyses the decision-making process and makes recommendations to make trade policy more coherent with development objectives.

[The coherence of Belgian policy in favour of development in Central Africa](#), 14 January 2016

This opinion aims to formulate recommendations to improve the coherence of Belgian policy for development in this region which occupies a special place in Belgian foreign and development policy. It addresses the five priority areas of policy coherence: trade and investment, environment, agriculture, migration, peace and security.

[Belgium's mandate in the World Bank](#), 14 January 2016

This opinion concerns Belgium's mandate within the World Bank Group. It analyses the functioning of the World Bank, and discusses examples of incoherence in terms of agriculture and food security, decent work and human rights in general. On this basis, it makes recommendations to ensure coherence between Belgian positions and development objectives.

[The National Action Plan \(NAP\) Business and Human Rights](#), 14 January 2016

This opinion concerns the relationship between business and human rights. With this opinion, the Council responded to a request from the Federal Minister for Energy, the Environment and Sustainable Development, Marie-Christine Marghem. In this opinion, the Council formulates specific comments on the preliminary draft of the National Action Plan 'Business and Human Rights' and also proposes a number of amendments and additions.

[Public country-by-country reporting by large companies](#), 10 May 2016

With this opinion, the Council wished to address an issue that received special attention at the Addis Ababa Conference on Financing for Development in 2015. In April of 2015, the European Commission presented a draft directive on public country-by-country reporting by large companies. This advice makes concrete recommendations for strengthened and more effective country-by-country reporting for multinational enterprises.

[Migration and development](#), 27 June 2016

This opinion answers a question from Minister Alexander De Croo. The opinion aims to feed the work of the 'Development and Migration' working group within the Interdepartmental Commission on Policy Coherence for Development. It addresses the strategic and political framework for migration and development; remittances; labour migration; cooperation with the diaspora; voluntary return; readmission agreements and the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa.

[Peace and security](#), 27 June 2016

This opinion answers a request from Minister Alexander De Croo to feed the Belgian interpretation of the 3D-LO (development, defence, diplomacy) concept. The Advisory Council interprets the question as an interpretation of a *whole-of-government* approach, in which it emphasises the role of the government and limits this to the domains of development cooperation, foreign affairs, defence, police and justice in fragile contexts.

[Policy coherence and food and nutrition security: towards a more coherent global food security management policy](#), 14 November 2016

This opinion relates to the coherence between Belgian policy on food and nutrition security and the international commitments made by Belgium in the Committee on Global Food Security (CFS) and within

the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as with regard to the right to food.

[External debt management of developing countries](#), 12 December 2016

This opinion concerns the management of external debt of developing countries. It makes recommendations to make debt management consistent with the principles of international law and the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, it analyses the role of “vulture funds” in the context of the application for annulment of the Belgian Act of 12 July 2015 on tackling the activities of vulture funds, which has been submitted to the Constitutional Court by the NML Capital fund.

[Public development aid as a lever to mobilise the private sector in developing countries \(blending\)](#) , 22 June 2017

This opinion deals with the use of public development aid as a lever to mobilise the private sector in developing countries (blending). It pays particular attention to the debate taking place within the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in this context. The opinion formulates recommendations to make blending coherent with human rights, the Sustainable Development Goals and the effectiveness of development aid.

[Belgium’s economic and trade relations with Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories](#), 17 January 2018

This opinion is based on the observation that the policy of the State of Israel, as occupying power in the Palestinian territories on the West Bank (including the Golan Heights) and Gaza, leads to the cancellation of the positive effects of the development aid offered by Belgium to those territories, or significantly reduces their effectiveness. The aim of this opinion is to identify the various instruments available to improve the coherence and effectiveness of Belgium’s action in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

[Sale of weapons to Saudi Arabia](#), 24 May 2018

This opinion concerns the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia and its impact on human rights violations and on the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. It pays particular attention to Belgium’s role in arms exports to Saudi Arabia. It makes recommendations to ensure that the granting of export licences for weapons is consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations’ General Assembly in September 2015.

[The preliminary draft law on Belgian development policy](#), 21 November 2018

This opinion analyses the way in which the principle of Policy Coherence for Development has been included in the preliminary draft, in its version of 25 October 2018, in particular in relation to the new concept of a *Comprehensive Approach*. It also analyses the way in which migration and support to the private sector are presented. It recommends better integration of policy coherence for development.

[Belgian and European policy on biofuels](#), 2 March 2019

This opinion relates to the European and Belgian policy on the use of biofuels in transport, within the framework of Belgium’s National Climate and Energy Plan 2030 and the European Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2001 (period 2021-2030). Belgium is advised to make use of the room provided in the new regulations to exclude first-generation biofuels from its National Climate and Energy Plan (NKEP) 2030. In addition, other levers have been identified to decarbonise the transport sector.

[More due diligence in the field of human rights](#), 14 March 2019

This opinion discusses the National Action Plan (NAP) for Businesses and Human Rights that Belgium officially presented on 12 December 2017. In this opinion the Advisory Council identifies greater care on the part of the business community in the field of human rights as an area where the NAP can be improved and where Belgium can confirm its commitment to the global agenda for business and human rights. The advice makes four recommendations in this respect.

#### 4. From Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) to Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD)

Since the adoption of the *Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development* and the *Sustainable Development Goals* by the United Nations' General Assembly on 24-26 September 2015, a new concept has been launched: *Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development* (PCSD). Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) is itself a Sustainable Development Goal:

*"17.14: Strengthening Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development"*.

Although, at first sight, it only concerns the addition of one word, there is a whole new concept behind this new term in the context of Agenda 2030. Agenda 2030 is a universal agenda to be implemented by and in all countries. All countries must aim to achieve the social, economic, environmental and policy dimensions of sustainable development.

The launch of PCSD has led to some confusion in relation to PCD. PCSD is coherence between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of the policy with an impact here and in the South, and with a view to present and future generations. PCSD is therefore multidimensional and strives to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their 169 sub-targets worldwide in a coherent manner.

But PCSD does not make PCD superfluous; PCD is an essential contribution to PCSD, which also has a stronger legal basis than PCSD. PCD should ensure the focus of policy coherence in the North on the sustainable development of the South. In this way, PCD shall contribute to the maximum to the realisation of PCSD or, in other words, to the realisation of Agenda 2030, which is currently - supplemented by the Paris Climate Agreement - the most guiding international programme for global sustainable development.

The new European Consensus on Development of 8 June 2017<sup>xiii</sup> also confirms the importance of PCD. The new Consensus places strong emphasis on Agenda 2030 and the need for PCSD, but retains PCD as an important pillar of PCSD. Recent reports by the European Commission are along the same lines<sup>xiv</sup>.

#### 5. The relation between the "Comprehensive Approach" and PC(S)D<sup>xv</sup>

In 2018, the government adopted a strategy paper on a *Comprehensive Approach*. In doing so, it seeks to achieve a more coherent and effective foreign policy. The Comprehensive Approach (CA) serves as a guide for all federal departments that contribute to the realisation of Belgian foreign policy. The CA is a means and has no finality of its own. However, its objective can only be the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, as set out in the [Green Paper on the Acropolis Comprehensive Approach](#) of the end of 2018:

*« Through its endorsement of the 2030 Agenda, Belgium commits itself to align all its policies – including its foreign policy – towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The CA [Comprehensive Approach] should therefore be used towards that end. [...] As such, the CA should fit in the broader framework of Belgian Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) and the Agenda 2030 should be used as a safeguard to assure that each use of the CA stands the test of contributing to sustainable development. »*

Any other search for greater cooperation and coherence must indeed be in function of sustainable development and must therefore also pass the test of policy coherence for development. This means that a Comprehensive Approach is subordinate to PCD and PCSD.

If a CA were to be guided mainly by narrowly interpreted national interests, this would not strengthen the coherence for sustainable development, but could even undermine it. Today, we see that the focus on complex international challenges is mainly driven by a limited security and migration agenda. A

successful CA that contributes to sustainable development, on the other hand, must start from the needs, rights and perspectives of local communities and citizens and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

So far, the CA has no legal basis, either in Belgium or internationally. This is in contrast to PCD. A CA may therefore be a tool that can contribute to PCD, but does not replace it.

## 6. Recommendations for the future of PCD-PCSD in Belgium and of the APCD

In view of the legal anchoring of PCD in the European treaties and in Belgian law, the repeated confirmation of PCD in decisions of the Council of the European Union, Agenda 2030 and the new European Consensus for Development, the PCD Advisory Council argues for a renewed effort to set up an adequate framework in Belgium for PCD as an important contribution to PCSD. Only in the context of such a framework can the Advisory Council fully play its role. According to the Advisory Council, this framework should include the following elements:

1. As recommended by the OECD and the European Commission, PCD should start with a high-level statement of intent, such as the government statement or a separate statement. It should also clearly indicate the relationship between the CA, PCD and PCSD. It is desirable for this declaration to be adopted jointly by both the federal government and the federated entities, as was the case in the aforementioned declaration of 23 May 2014. Such a statement sends a clear signal to all the administrations involved.

2. In accordance with the Development Cooperation Law of 19 March 2013, policy coherence for development must be understood not only as reactive (avoiding the adoption of measures that hamper development) but also as proactive (focusing other sectoral policy areas on the development objective). A PCD plan should be developed and drawn up for the duration of the legislature, which indicates the policy areas in which progress is to be made, together with clear definitions and objectives. The PCD content of the policy decision should be **made explicit** in order to facilitate ex post evaluation. The preparation of the plan should be preceded by an ex-ante **evaluation** of the PCD mechanism used until then and by a **consultation** of stakeholders and the APCD. The new members of the PCD Advisory Council will be appointed as soon as possible so that the Council can also give advice on the plan and the choice of policy areas.

3. The government should also establish procedures to ensure that policy proposals are thoroughly evaluated in view of PCD. The Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA), which has been in place since 2014, can serve as a first step in this process. Interdepartmental consultation is also necessary to maximise synergies between sectoral policies and to reduce the risk of incoherence. An interdepartmental committee should be appointed for this purpose. This committee also acknowledges and discusses the opinions of APCD. The exchange of experiences on policy coherence with the OECD, the European Commission and the EU Member States is recommended, also in order to speed up the acquisition of best practices.

4. The administration should provide human and financial resources to examine the policy areas included in the PCD plan and to evaluate their impact on sustainable development in the South. This applies not only to the administration responsible for development cooperation, but also to the administrations responsible in particular for the economy, trade, finance, agriculture, the environment, energy, migration, security and all areas mentioned in the Declaration of the Federal State, the Regions and Communities of Belgium on Policy Coherence for Development of 23 May 2014. A *“PCD focal point”* could be appointed in each administration concerned. These could respond in a systematic way to the opinions of APCD.

5. Within the government, **the Minister of Development Cooperation is entrusted to promote PCD**, the implementation of the PCD plan and the proper functioning of the PCD mechanisms. But PCD

requires the support and political will of the entire government, which must be stimulated on a regular basis. It is up to the Prime Minister to ensure that this is the case.

6. The functioning of APCD could be improved by a revision of the method of appointment of its members. For a period of five years, the members' employment or duties may change, thus affecting their ability to participate in the Council. It should be possible to quickly replace members who are absent for a long time. If necessary, institutions can be appointed instead of persons, which in turn designate the members.

7. Finally, the Advisory Council can work together and make agreements with the Federal Council for Sustainable Development to strengthen PCD as a contribution to PCSD. Consultation should take place on issues that are at the crossroads of the mandates of both advisory bodies. These consultations could lead to the preparation of joint opinions.

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<sup>i</sup> Consolidated versions of the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), Official Journal of the European Union, C 326, 26 October 2012: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/NL/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2012:326:TOC>

<sup>ii</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>iii</sup> *Policy Coherence for Development. Accelerating progress towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals*, Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament and the European Economic and Social Committee, Brussels, 12.4.2005 COM(2005) 134 final, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2005:0134:FIN:EN:PDF>; 'The European Consensus on Development', Joint Statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission – December 2005 (OJ 2006/C 46/01). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ%3AC%3A2006%3A046%3A0001%3A0019%3AEN%3APDF>

<sup>iv</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/swd\\_2019\\_20\\_pcdreport.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/swd_2019_20_pcdreport.pdf) ; [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/pcd-report-2015\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/pcd-report-2015_en.pdf) ; [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/pcd-report-2013\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/pcd-report-2013_en.pdf) ; [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/eu-2011-report-on-pcd\\_en.doc.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/eu-2011-report-on-pcd_en.doc.pdf); [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/report-eu-policy-coherence-development-2009\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/report-eu-policy-coherence-development-2009_en.pdf) ; [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/report-eu-policy-coherence-development-2007\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/report-eu-policy-coherence-development-2007_en.pdf)

<sup>v</sup> 26 October 2015: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/24469/st13202-en15.pdf>;

12 December 2013: [https://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms\\_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/140063.pdf](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/140063.pdf);

14 May 2012: [https://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms\\_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/130225.pdf](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/130225.pdf) ;

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3 November 2008: <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-14442-2008-INIT/en/pdf>;

<sup>vi</sup> <http://www.oecd.org/dac/policycoherencefordevelopmentpromotinginstitutionalgoodpractice.htm> ; [http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=PAC/COM/NEWS\(2002\)58&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=PAC/COM/NEWS(2002)58&docLanguage=En) ; <http://www.oecd.org/gov/pcsd/44704030.pdf> ; <http://www.oecd.org/gov/pcsd/20202515.pdf> ; <http://www.oecd.org/gov/pcsd/>

<sup>vii</sup> *Act on the Belgian Development Cooperation* of 19 March 2013, published in the Belgian Official Gazette of 12 April 2013.

<sup>viii</sup> OECD, *Policy Framework for Policy Coherence for Development*, Paris, 2012,

<http://www.oecd.org/gov/pcsd/50461952.pdf> ; OECD, *Development Co-operation Report 2001, The DAC Journal*, Paris, 2002, <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/dcr-2001-en.pdf?expires=1556019825&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=0314B18DC712F501C729A7D7F325B170>

<sup>ix</sup> See also <http://www.oecd.org/dac/peer-reviews/peer-review-belgium.htm> ; <https://ecdpm.org/publications/policy-coherence-indicators-eu/>

<sup>x</sup> *Declaration of the Federal State, Regions and Communities of Belgium on Policy Coherence for Development*, 23 May 2014: [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/nl/Newsroom/Nieuws/Perscommuniques/os/2014/06/ni\\_200614\\_beleidscoherentie](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/nl/Newsroom/Nieuws/Perscommuniques/os/2014/06/ni_200614_beleidscoherentie) ; [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/sites/default/files/downloads/juin14\\_D%C3%A9claration\\_coh%C3%A9rence%20des%20politiques%202014.pdf](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/sites/default/files/downloads/juin14_D%C3%A9claration_coh%C3%A9rence%20des%20politiques%202014.pdf)

<sup>xi</sup> *Royal Decree on the establishment of an Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development* of 2 April 2014, Belgian Official Gazette, 22 April 2014,

<sup>xii</sup> *MB of 21 May 2014*, published in the Belgian Official Gazette of 26 June 2014.

<sup>xiii</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/new-european-consensus-development-our-world-our-dignity-our-future\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/new-european-consensus-development-our-world-our-dignity-our-future_en)

<sup>xiv</sup> 2019 EU report on Policy Coherence for Development, 28 January 2019, Commission SWD(2019) 20 final, [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/swd\\_2019\\_20\\_pcdreport.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/swd_2019_20_pcdreport.pdf); *Evaluation of the EU Policy Coherence for Development*, 26 February 2019, Commission SWD(2019) 93 final, [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/swd-pcd-evaluation-full-20190226\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/swd-pcd-evaluation-full-20190226_en.pdf)

<sup>xv</sup> See also APCD's advice on the preliminary draft law on Belgian development policy, 21 November 2018, [http://www.ccpd-abco.be/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/181121\\_ABCO\\_Advies\\_Wet.pdf](http://www.ccpd-abco.be/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/181121_ABCO_Advies_Wet.pdf)