Annex 2 - CSO FFD Group Comments on Draft ECOSOC FfD Forum Programme

Ministerial segment

1. The Opening Day features very limited space for actual dialogue and does not include any planned intervention by civil society. We trust this can be rectified in the revision of the programme. In particular, civil society should be allowed to intervene at the end of the Ministerial dialogue segment, should time allow it. Furthermore, the afternoon dialogue should be framed as comprising all FfD constituencies rather than exclusively the major institutional stakeholders;

2. With regards to Day 2, we appreciate the explicit reference to civil society interventions in the Ministerial Roundtables. However, the language is excessively tentative and we would like to restate the important to ensuring meaningful participation of and contribution from civil society in all segments of the programme. We would also like to restate that, in accordance to its proven self-organizing capacity and collective process, civil society should be invited to designate its own representatives for these sessions;

Expert segment

3. Time allocated to the expert discussion is too short to be meaningful. At the same time, combining action areas A and C is extremely challenging (as well as D and G to a lesser extent). We therefore propose to eliminate the expert discussions and hold separate Roundtables on Action Areas A and C;

4. The focus of all Roundtables (in the absence of the multiyear programme we have called for) should be on exposing and tackling structural barriers to implementation;

5. The Guiding Questions in Roundtable C "Debt and Systemic Issues" of the draft programme are questionable in their framing. This roundtable should rather discuss how to advance progress on the Addis mandates, in particular:

   a. What should be the guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns (mandate from AAAA 97);

   b. What is needed to improve the arrangements for (...) orderly, timely and efficient restructuring that respects the principles of shared responsibility (mandate from AAAA 99);

6. The programme would greatly benefit from devoting one session to critical and emerging issues.