



**Resolution:**  
**“Public Private Cooperation in International Cooperation”**

*Adopted at the YEPP Seminar in Madrid, Spain on 28-29 September 2012*

**Recognising that:**

- The European Commission spends 9 billion euro on international cooperation (until 2013). The EU Member States spend more than 45 billion euro on international cooperation each year. This makes the European Union the biggest group of donors on international cooperation in the world.
- The European Commission has a particular Commissioner especially for international cooperation.
- The European Union has an international cooperation policy that is coherent with the Millennium Goals of the United Nations.
- The European Commission wants disadvantaged populations in the world to regain control of their own development. That is why international cooperation focuses on the causes of the arrears.
- Many private owned companies, e.g. multinationals, inside the EU Member States are active in countries of the European Union's international cooperation policy.

**Acknowledging that:**

- The EU Member States agreed to harmonise their programmes for international cooperation in May 2007. This harmonisation should prevent conflicting with international cooperation policy of the EU Member States.
- The international cooperation policy of the European Union is based on trade and help. The European Union sees trade as an important stimulator of economic growth in countries of their international cooperation policy.
- Private sector investments increase the opportunities for economic growth for developing countries, as they help to diversify the economy and improve the investment climate due to agglomeration effects.
- The European Union has to deal with the recession as well as the euro crisis which force EU Member States to tighten their national budgets. The economic hardship leads to debates about the 0.7%-rule.
- Corporate responsibility can be exercised through international cooperation, as economies around the world are interlinked.

- Through public-private-partnerships, business instruments and economic diplomacy, it is possible to make a profit for poverty reduction as well as for the private sector, which is shown in The Netherlands.

**YEPP calls on:**

- The European Commission and the Member States to recognize that, beside the European institutions, EU Member States (national governments) and NGOs, also the private sector does matter in international cooperation policy.
- The European Commission and the EU Member States to try to involve the private sector as much as possible in their policy of international cooperation by using e.g. public-private-partnerships. However, they should take caution not to return to past policies of so-called tied aid.
- The European Commission and the EU Member States to maximize the legal and administrative support of NGOs in their international cooperation policy.