



MEDIA INVITATION - 7TH December 2010

***'Politicisation of humanitarian aid a worrying trend with grave consequences'
The Humanitarian Response Index 2010***

DARA's annual report, which ranks the effectiveness of donor governments' humanitarian assistance, reveals that political priorities have impeded the delivery of vital humanitarian aid to millions of people in need.

The world's main donor governments provide over US\$11 billion a year in humanitarian aid. On 7 December 2010, DARA will present the findings of its global Humanitarian Response Index 2010, which assesses the **performance of the world's 23 main donor governments in 14 crises** that received almost two thirds of total emergency aid funding in 2009.

Ross Mountain, Director General of DARA and former Humanitarian Coordinator and UN Deputy Special Representative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, will highlight the report's latest findings, amongst which is the increasing militarisation and politicisation of aid. This compromises access to affected populations, and civilian populations are not receiving the protection and assistance they need. The lives of humanitarian workers have also been endangered by this worrying trend. The report also highlights the need for investment in prevention and preparedness, more efficient use of aid and a principled approach.

The policies and practices of key donors will be discussed based on quantitative data and field research carried out in major humanitarian crises during 2010, including the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Haiti, Yemen, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Sudan and Zimbabwe.

WHAT: Breakfast briefing
The Humanitarian Response Index 2010
DARA will present the findings of its global Humanitarian Response Index 2010 at the European Development Days.

WHEN: 7 December 2010, 09.00 – 10.00 am

WHO: **Ross Mountain**, Director General of DARA and Former UN Deputy Special Representative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Philip Tamminga, Head of the Humanitarian Response Index, DARA
Commentary by **Kathrin Schick**, Director of VOICE

Ross Mountain and Philip Tamminga will be available for interviews following the launch of the HRI

WHERE: Square Brussels Meeting Centre
Monts des Arts B-1000 Brussels

CONTACT Amandine de Coster, +32 2 894 90 17
adecoster@daraint.org