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La coordination nationale des ONG de solidarité internationale  
se mobilise pour la Présidence française de l'Union européenne

**Coordination SUD**  
Solidarité Urgence Développement

European NGO confederation  
for relief and development  
**CONCORD**  
Confédération européenne des ONG  
d'urgence et de développement

Press release

## **Financial crisis: NGOs around the world call for the European Union to fight for a Global Governance that would finally be democratic**

*Paris, 3 November 2008* - **In a context of unprecedented crises regarding finances, climate and food and on the eve of the G20 summit on November 15 in Washington, representatives of 10 000 NGOs from 82 countries have for the first time organized an International Forum of national coalitions of NGOs, where participants called for the EU to defend a reform of global governance that is serving the most vulnerable populations.**

Civil Society Organisations meeting in Paris last week on Thursday 30 October with Coordination SUD, the national coordination of French NGOs of international solidarity representing **10.000 NGOs**, \* presented a roadmap for European solidarity and responsibility in international negotiations to Mr. Joyandet, Secretary of State for Cooperation and the Francophone community..

At a time when States are questioning the need to regulate globalisation through a reform of international financial institutions (World Bank, International Monetary Fund, etc.), NGOs from across the world have called upon the European Union (EU) to ensure effective participation of the poorest countries in international forums.

Henri Rouillé d'Orfeuil, President of Coordination SUD, stressed that the need for fair and democratic regulations should lead the EU to propose *"the establishment of social, environmental and cultural specifications able to frame the strategy of the economic actors in discussions on the reform of the international institutions."*

In the meeting **"Messages from the world to the European Union"**, NGOs called on the EU to review its trade, agricultural, environmental and economic policies so that they contribute to a sustainable north and south development and to the fight against inequality.

According to Bakary Doumbia, President of the FECONG (Platform of NGOs of Mali), *"The European development cooperation focuses on the fight against illegal immigration, the promotion of the interests of European companies and the fight against terrorism, instead of strengthening the policies about education, health and equality between men and women."*

Mike Mathias, Chairman of the political forum CONCORD (European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development), explains *"the European model of development must be reconsidered from scratch. The planet can not bear the consumption of the economically privileged populations of the world. The current model based on economic growth alone does not allow better distribution of wealth. "*

*\*from the regional coalitions of Mesa Articulacion (Latin America), REPAOC (West Africa), REPONGAC (Central Africa), PIANGO (Oceania), National Coalition of Platforms Asia (South and South-East), SADC Council of NGOs (Southern Africa) and CONCORD (Europe).*

Read the "Messages of the World to the European Union"

Version française : [http://www.coordinationsud.org/IMG/pdf/WorldmessagesEurope\\_FR.pdf](http://www.coordinationsud.org/IMG/pdf/WorldmessagesEurope_FR.pdf)

English version : [http://www.coordinationsud.org/IMG/pdf/WorldmessagesEurope\\_EN.pdf](http://www.coordinationsud.org/IMG/pdf/WorldmessagesEurope_EN.pdf)

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**Coordination SUD** – ("SUD" for "Solidarité Urgence Développement" or "**Solidarity, Relief, Development**") is the national platform of French international solidarity NGOs. Founded in 1994, it brings together six NGO coalitions (CLONG-Volontariat, CNAJEP, Coordination d'Agen, CRID, FORIM, Groupe Initiatives) and more than 130 French international solidarity NGOs. Together with their partners from countries of the South, these NGOs carry out humanitarian relief, development assistance, environmental protection and promotion of human rights of vulnerable and marginalised people, as well as international solidarity education and advocacy. [www.coordinationsud.org](http://www.coordinationsud.org)

**CONCORD** is the European confederation of relief and development NGOs. Its national associations and international networks represent over 1 600 NGOs which are supported by millions of citizens across Europe. CONCORD leads reflection and political actions and regularly engages in dialogue with the European institutions and other civil society organisations. [www.concordeurope.org](http://www.concordeurope.org)