



Belgian Federal Council for Sustainable Development

Summary of the Advice on the policy plan for development cooperation *Quality in solidarity.* *A partnership for sustainable development*

- Requested by Mr Eddy Boutmans, Secretary of State for Development Cooperation
- Prepared by the *International relations* working group
- Endorsed by the General Assembly of June 20, 2000

The Federal Council for Sustainable development FRDO-CFDD (the acronym comes from the Dutch *Federale Raad voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling* and the French *Conseil Fédéral du Développement Durable*) considers the policy paper of the Secretary of State for Development Cooperation an interesting document. The Council appreciates quite a number of elements in this note and concurs to a great extent with the view of the Secretary of State. The Council's main criticism is that the document does not make sufficiently clear what the Secretary of State wants to achieve concretely during the present period of office. According to the Council, what are often excessively general and vague policy lines must be turned into concrete policy as a matter of urgency. In its advice, the Council provides first an assessment of the note, and then makes specific remarks. This advice supplements the remarks on international policy in the advice on the preliminary draft of the federal sustainable development plan 2000-2003 of 4 April 2000.