



Bangladesh plans to implement Busan Outcome Document

Finance Minister AMA Muhith has said establishing more effective mutual accountability mechanisms is important for post-Busan support, reports UNB.

"Post-Paris and post-Accra experiences demonstrated the challenges involved in translating global policy commitments into corresponding and appropriate country-level practices, resulting in considerable 'unfinished business' regarding the full implementation of past aid effectiveness commitments," Muhith said.

The Finance Minister made the remarks while addressing the concluding session of the High Level Forum-4 in Busan, South Korea Thursday, according to a message received in the city.

Muhith said global monitoring processes, such as the Paris Declaration Monitoring Surveys and UN-led Global Mutual Accountability Survey can support mutual accountability mechanisms at country level.

Consequently, he said, a suitable new mechanism to monitor commitments made in Busan should be established. Besides, it is crucial to institutionalise mechanisms to monitor performance and progress towards full implementation of global commitments at country level, the Finance Minister observed.

Muhith mentioned that there is some progress made by Bangladesh since Paris in the aid coordination architecture that are most relevant for the implementation of the Busan Outcome Document.

These include the main mechanism for advancing the country-level aid effectiveness agenda and implementing the Busan Outcome Document is the Joint Cooperation Strategy (JCS), which was agreed upon and signed by the government of Bangladesh and its development partners in 2010.

Bangladesh already has the structure of a good formal machinery of collective dialogue in the form of Local Consultative Group (LCG) mechanism. Using this mechanism, it is expected to hold consultations with development partners soon after the High-Level Forum to discuss how the Busan Outcome Document can best be implemented in Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, the Finance Minister met some important dignitaries like Dr Noeleen Heyzer, Under Secretary-General of United Nations and UNESCAP Executive Secretary, Erik Solheim, Minister for Environment and Development, Norway, ADB President Haruhiko Kuroda, KOICA President Park Dae-won and Gunilla Carisson, Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden and discussed bilateral issues.

Cabinet Secretary M Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, Nazma Akther, MP, ERD Secretary Iqbal Mahmoodr and Shahidul Islam, Bangladesh Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, among others, were present during the meetings.