

Lenita Toivakka

Minister for Trade and Development

Finland

Dear Lenita Toivakka, Minister for Trade and Development,

We are deeply saddened by the news we hear from Finland. For years, we have learned to appreciate Finland as a reliable and stable development partner, which is committed to long-term development.

We have been especially impressed by the example Finland has shown in nursing and promoting diverse civil society, which involves a variety of agencies from trade unions to and faith-based foundations from professional to voluntary organisations, and always focused on the most marginalized.

The news we read about 300 million EUR cuts to development force us to reconsider our appraisal. Has it all been a smoke screen after all, or is Finland really serious about development?

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