

ONE DAY INTERSESSIONAL MEETING BETWEEN MAJOR GROUPS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS AND THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGS

22 November, 2013 (10:00 am – 1:00 pm; 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm)

UN HQ, New York, NY, Conference Building Room 3

(working language English, translation only available upon availability)

AGENDA

MORNING (9:00-13:00)

10:00 – 10:15 Opening Session: Welcome and explanation of the day,

Co-chairs: Ambassador Korosi, OWG co-chairs and Sascha Gabizon and Jeff Huffines

10:15 – 11:30 First Session: Rights-based SDGs that encompasses all dimensions of Sustainable Development, Co-Chairs Ambassador Korosi and Sameer Dosani (Actionaid)

10:15 to 10:40 Speakers

- Jan van de Venis: Human Rights Law
- Ignacio Saiz: Economic and Social Rights (TBC)
- Norma Maldonado: Farmers Major Groups (TBC)
- Norine Kennedy: Business & Industry Major Groups

Questions

- How practically can human rights norms inform the content of SDGs, targets and indicators?
- How can the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities as recognized in Rio+20 be made more operational by relating it to existing human rights norms? How can human rights norms serve as a common yardstick to evaluate policy coherence for sustainable development, especially as related to **corporate accountability, environment, trade, aid, tax, migration, intellectual property, debt, monetary, and financial regulation**?
- Though many countries have ratified the conventions related to international human rights, there are few effective enforcement mechanisms. What kinds of penalties can the international community impose on those who are not living up to their human rights obligations? How can (economically and politically) weaker countries ensure that stronger countries also comply with international human rights law and international human rights standards?

- Research evidence shows positive links between accountable governments, equality and non-discrimination, inclusive growth and sustainable development - why would this be the case?
- What would be the positive multiplier effects of a human rights-based approach to development?
- Why would data on overall educational attainment and investment in schools not tell us whether the right to freedom from discrimination is being upheld?
- What would be the positive multiplier/ripple effects of a Rights Based Approach to development?
- Why would data on overall educational attainment and investment in schools not tell us whether the right to freedom from discrimination is being upheld?
- How to ensure Member States do not ignore a Rights Based approach?

10:40- 11:30 Questions and Answers

11:30- 11:45 BREAK

11:45-13:00 Second Session: How the Sustainable Development Goals can eliminate inequalities and poverty, Co-chair Ambassador Korosi and Matt Simonds and Debra Jones

11:45 – 12:10 Speakers

- Rosy Pereyra: Aging Peoples
- Golan Kibrea: Children and Youth Major Groups
- Kwabena Otoo: Workers and Trade Union Major Groups
- Sean Reggee: LGBT Rights

Questions

- Should there be stand alone goal on eliminating income inequalities?
- Should targets include affirmative action and quota for women, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities?
- Should targets include all countries to improve their GINI co-efficient?
- Should goals include the elimination of the gender pay gap?
- Is reducing extreme wealth important to eliminating inequalities?

12:10- 13:00 Questions and Answers

AFTERNOON (14:00- 18:00)

14:00 – 14:15 *Special Briefing by the Office of the President of the General Assembly on the General Assembly events under the theme: Setting the Stage for the Post 2015 Development Agenda, Jorge Laguna Celis*

14:15 – 14:30 Q&A session: Co-chairs Galina Angarova

14:30 – 15:50 Third Session: Good governance, enabling environment and institutions at the core of implementing SDGs, Ambassador Kamau and Debra Jones and Erica Dhar

14:30 – 15:00 Speakers

- Myrna Cunningham: Indigenous Peoples Major Groups
- Aliya Celik, UCLG: Local Authorities Major Group
- Jeff Huffines: CIVICUS, NGO Major Groups
- Gathoni Blessol of Disability Focus and The Rules.org
- Diarmid O'Sullivan, Open Society Fellow

Questions

- What role do open and accountable institutions play in eradicating extreme poverty and promote sustainable development?
- What innovations in measurement and statistics might enable cross country measurement of issues such as open and accountable governance and human rights?
- What models of economic governance addresses systemic and structural change?
- In the development of public-private partnerships, how can safeguards within the multilateral system be strengthened to ensure that public finance (ODA) often used to cover the risks of private investment will promote public interests?
- How will the Open Working Group on SDGs ensure an “open, transparent and inclusive” process that includes all relevant stakeholders during the report writing phase of its work?
- How can the SDGs guide the work and scope of the HLPF in cooperation with the GA and ECOSOC, and in coordination with UN entities and other international bodies?
- How can the HLPF effectively integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development by ensuring policy coherence and institutional coordination between international institutions and national sustainable development strategies?
- How can the HLPF help bridge the governance gaps between the UN, Bretton Woods, WTO and other economic institutions and ensure accountability of these institutions to human rights?
- In addition to governments, how can the HLPF help ensure ownership of the SDGs by all other stakeholder groups?
- What types of additional resources for secretarial and stakeholder support will be needed for the HLPF given its very broad mandate to coordinate the review and implementation of sustainable development across the UN system?
- How can global governance help achieve ambitious universal goals while respecting the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities?
- How can the SDGs contribute to a more balanced and synergetic approach among all levels of government and development partners?

15:00- 15:50 Questions and Answers

15:50- 16:05 Break

16:05 – 17:25 Fourth Session: Designing SDGs that foster human development within planetary boundaries (including climate change and natural resources management), Co-Chairs Ambassador Kamau and Louise Kantrow and Gisbert Glaser

16:05 – 16:35 Speakers

- Dr. Ian Noble: Scientific & Technological Community Major Groups
- Bernadette Fischler: Climate Change, NGO Major Groups
- John Drexhage: Business & Industry Major Groups
- WADS Wijetunge: Children and Youth Major Groups
- Nozipho Wright: Energia Botswana, Women Major Groups

Questions

- How can the SDGs be designed in order to focus on the effect of human development within planetary boundaries addressing the needs of the most vulnerable?
- How can the SDGs concerning human development be designed in order to take advantage of the richness of experience of those who are affected, as they also have unique understanding of potential solutions?
- How to address climate change in the SDGs without going into parallel negotiations with UNFCCC?
- How to create legally binding mechanisms to protect and clean up the global commons; oceans etc.?
- How to create incentives to implement the existing MEAs as part of SDGs?
- How to address loss and damage and historic liability?
- How to give a voice to future generations?
- How to incorporate emerging challenges with impact on planetary boundaries and strong potential for fostering interlinkages such as sustainable urbanisation and sustainable consumption & production?

16:35 – 17:25 Questions and Answers

17:25 - 18:00 Closing Plenary

Key note address – short messages from the sessions by various co-chairs

Questions and Answers