

United Nations Nations Unies

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The Secretariat of the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Rio+20 outcome document *The Future We Want* which established an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on sustainable development goals (SDGs) that is open to all stakeholders, with a view to developing global SDGs to be agreed by the General Assembly. The outcome document mandated the establishment of an inter-governmental Open Working Group that will submit a report to the 68th session of the General Assembly containing a proposal for SDGs for consideration and appropriate action. The outcome document specifies that the process leading to the SDGs needs to be coordinated and coherent with the post 2015 development agenda and that initial input to the work of the Open Working Group will be provided by the Secretary-General in consultation with national governments.

Your attention is also drawn to the UN Task Team Report *Realizing the Future We Want For All*, which constitutes an important UN system contribution to the Open Working Group. The report can be accessed at the following address: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/Post_2015_UNTTreport.pdf. At the request of the Secretary-General over 60 entities across the United Nations and including the World Bank, IMF and OECD worked together to produce this report, co-chaired by UNDESA and UNDP. The UN Task Team, or a subset thereof, will serve as the inter-agency technical support team requested in the Rio+20 outcome.

Against the backdrop of the UN Task Team Report, the following questionnaire related to the development of SDGs is being transmitted to all Member States. This is a preliminary means of conducting consultations with national Governments on SDGs and could be considered as a contribution to UN-supported national consultations on the post-2015 development agenda. The responses of Member States will feed into a report prepared as the initial input of the Secretary-General to the Open Working Group.

Member States are requested to provide responses to the questionnaire and submit them to the Secretariat before 21 October 2012, to enable the preparation of the initial inputs in a timely fashion. Please note that the questionnaire can also be filled out online by visiting the SD Knowledge Platform at <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org> and signing in by clicking "My Account" in the upper right corner. Username/password are the same as for the Rio+20 website. For questions, please contact us at dsd@un.org.

The Secretariat of the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

28 September 2012

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