

RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

State of Negotiation Text: Compilation with Co-Chairs' Suggestions

Briefing by David O'Connor and Fred Soltau UN DSD/DESA, 23 April 2012

What has happened since end-March?



- Co-Chairs have responded to request of Member States to produce Co-Chairs' suggested text to streamline the compilation text
- As of end of March informal informals, compilation text had reached 200+ pages
- Current text includes all the original amendments to zero draft – as of 27 March – plus paras representing Co-Chairs' suggestions (in blue)
- The two combined make the text around 270 pages long.
- So, the Co-Chairs' suggested text has reduced the compilation text by roughly two-thirds.

What's noteworthy about new text



- Discussion of Major Groups enhanced
- Green economy SDPE chap: balances dev'ing country concerns with sense of opportunities
- Rights-based approach to food, water, other basic needs
- Corporate sustainability reporting framework still on agenda (CST 24)
- Access to env information and justice

What's noteworthy about new text



- Now only a single framework for action encompassing:
 - Priority areas and cross-cutting issues
 - SDGs and measuring progress
 - Means of implementation
- Link from Green economy SDPE chapter to Framework for action
- Also link from priority areas to the SDGs

What about SD governance?



- Co-chairs' text offers no suggestions on core issues:
 - ECOSOC + SDC, or ECOSOC instead of SDC?
 - Can, should CSD be reformed, strengthened?
 - UNEP: specialized agency or only universal membership?
- Strong suggestions on strengthening sciencepolicy interface

Consultations on CST



- Co-Chairs met separated with four Political Group(ing)s:
 - EU
 - G77 and China
 - JUSCANZ+
 - Eastern European countries
- Took temperature to see if CST could be used as basis for moving forward with negotiations

What else has been happening?



- ... during the recess in negotiations ...
- Ambassadors' mtg convened by Brazilian gov't in effort to bring positions closer together ...
- Some Major Groups have submitted proposals
- Business and Industry held major meeting in The Hague
- UN SG met with Finance Ministers last Friday at World Bank/IMF spring meetings

MGs: strategy from now to Rio?



- Open letter from some NGOs calling for fuller engagement of MGs in negotiations
- How to be most effective?
- What matters most? Where should energies be focused? With respect to ...
 - Green economy SDPE
 - Institutional framework SD
 - Priorities/cross-cutting issues; SDGs
 - Means of implementation

Green economy SDPE



- Roadmap: will Rio+20 agree on one?
 - How should MGs engage in drawing up such a roadmap?
- Knowledge platforms: will these be encouraged?
 - What can MGs do to ensure their relevance at the grass roots, for all stakeholders?
- Tool kit, menu of policy options
 - How to draw upon MG experience, know how?

Institutional framework for SD



Priority areas, cross-cutting issues



- Can aspirational goals be agreed for key priority areas – food, water, energy, oceans?
 - EU has been discussing introducing explicit reference to goals and timelines in these areas
- How can engagement of MGs in key areas be strengthened?
 - decent green jobs and social inclusion
 - agriculture and food security
 - sustainable cities

Sustainable Development Goals



- State of discussion:
 - Broad agreement on a SD framing of post-2015 development agenda
 - Strong but not universal support for process to define SDGs, complementing MDGs
 - Limited support for endorsing specific goals at Rio
- How should MGs engage in these discussions?
 - What are views on what should come out of Rio?
 - Are some areas ripe for agreeing goals at Rio?

Means of implementation



- What are the aspirations of MGs in this area?
- 10YFP on SCP: contains explicit agreement on MOI
- ... but what about Green Economy SDPE?
- ... How can the institutional reforms agreed at Rio enhance MOI?
 - Strengthening resource mobilization capacities
 - Improving oversight of delivery on MOI commitments

15/15/15: where do we stand?



15/15/15 UN – Civil Society Resource
 Mobilization Partnership Formula (Global civil society committing at Rio+20 to mobilize 15 billion Euros and 15 million volunteers by the year 2015 for UN led sustainable development efforts and getting new participation possibilities in UN system in return)

Registry of voluntary commitments



- Has gone live on Rio+20 website (http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/voluntarycommitments.html)
- Open to Major Groups, IGOs, Member States
- Specific, timebound, monitorable
- Eight commitments so far ... would like at least 800 by Rio
 - Between now and the Conference, that would mean 20 new commitments a day

MGs:

- register legally binding commitments
- invite participating entities/individuals to endorse Charter on Shared Social Responsibility for Global Commons and to report/register on an annual basis their sustainable development efforts
- measure progress against globally agreed goals (link to SDGs0
- Ensure actions add up to what science tells us is needed to address scale of problems faced.