

Rio+20 – Major Groups Capacity Building

Analysis of MG Amendments – Section III & IV

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Section III - Trends and Themes



- **Plural economies**, not a singular economy
- Importance of **local and regional economies**/markets is stressed in amendments
- The concept of **growth** remains contentious – NGOs
- **Social** element remain underdeveloped
- Few instances of non-agreement between MGs
 - All minor wording issues between NGOs
- Prioritisation of policies which maximises positive impacts
- Stressing need to be **multilingual** in all outcomes.

Section III - Trends and Themes

- Clear that “Green Economy” (GE) means many different things to different MGs:
 - Definition
 - Purpose
 - Principles
 - Goals
 - Even how to transition
- Increased specificity in suggested amendments about what the GE means.
 - Remains opaque, broad and crowded
- However, many clear additions on what the GE **must not** do.

Section III - Trends and Themes



- However, many clear additions on what the GE **must not** do:
 - Exacerbate inequalities
 - Undermine technological abilities or widen technology gaps
 - Threaten the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources
 - Introduce technology harmful to environment, health or human rights
- Apply the precautionary approach to any technologies that might imply a serious risk for the environment or human society

Section III – Green Economy



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
25	Green Econom <u>ies</u> to recognise diversity and importance of local economies.	Indigenous Peoples/NGOs/Science & Technology	
25	Toolkits and knowledge platforms must incorporate and use traditional knowledge as contributions to 21st century learning and action.	Indigenous Peoples	
25	The removal of “growth”.	NGOs	
25	Addition and edits on the purpose and aim of the Green Economy	NGOs/Women/Workers & Trade Unions	
25	“inclusive wealth” to include all forms of capital–natural, social and human, as well as financial and manufactured	Science & Technology	

Section III – Green Economy



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
27	“Sustainable Economy” not “Green Economy”	NGOs	
27	Resource justice and contraction and convergence.	NGOs	
27	Propose 10 principles for Green Economy.	Workers & Trade Unions	
28	Countries have unique context, but must respect “international legal frameworks and regulations - NGOs] [that incorporate international human rights obligations and principles”	NGOs	

Section III – Green Economy



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
28	Applying human rights-based and ecosystems-based approaches	Indigenous People	
29	“Social equity” missing from opportunities flowing from green economy	Women	
30	Green economy policies must emphasis social justice	NGOs	
30	International support for developing countries is acknowledged, but emancipation from such support is important.	Workers & Trade Unions	
30	Transformation requires consideration of equity, inclusion, gender and human rights.	Women	

Section III – Green Economy



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
31	<p>Expansive amendments on what the green economy <u>must not</u> do, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exacerbate inequalities • Undermine technological abilities or widen technology gaps • Threaten the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources • Introduce technology harmful to environment, health or human rights 	NGOs/Business & Industry/Indigenous People/Women	
31	<p>NGOs include additions on what it <u>must</u> do, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with all international agreements • Increase ODA 	NGOs	

Section III – Green Economy



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
32	Prioritisation policies which maximises positive impacts	NGOs/Workers & Trade Unions	
33	Stressing need to be multilingual in all outcomes.	NGOs	
33 & 36	Crucial roles of the scientific and technological community in the work of knowledge sharing platforms and the Green Economy.	Scientific & Technological Community	
37	Outcome of Rio+20 will be the establishment of a roadmap with a concrete action plan, targets and timetables for achieving SD.	NGOs	
40	Local and Subnational Authorities to support the national green economy strategies	Local Authorities	

Section III – Green Economy



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
42	Apply the precautionary approach to any technologies that might imply a serious risk for the environment or human society	NGOs	
43	Removal of periodic and comprehensive assessment of progress.	NGOs / Business & Industry	
43	Addition of public procurement as a important driver for a green economy, and to show leadership by example.	NGOs	

Section IV - Trends and Themes



- **Bio-centric vs. people-centric**
 - The human right to a healthy environment, and the right of nature itself to be healthy, lie at the basis of the institutional and governance.
- Consider the **cultural** dimension along with traditional three elements of SD.
- Replace “integrated” with “**holistic**” decision-making in SD.
- Provide means to ensure the need and rights of **future generations** are taken into account in decision-making

Section IV - Trends and Themes



- **ECOSOC vs. Sustainable Development Council**
 - Both proposals are supported by NGOs, a clear conflict
- **UNEP** – Non-agreement amongst NGOs
 - Support for both options of strengthening UNEP and to upgrade it to specialised agency status.
- Enhance the **participation** of local and subnational by incorporating them into a new Stakeholder Group called ‘Governmental Stakeholders’

Section IV - Trends and Themes



- Need for **annual global review** on the state of the planet (including social and economic dimensions)
- **Science** featured strongly in the amendments:
 - Need for annual global review on the state of the planet (including social and economic dimensions)
 - Develop a new contract between science, engineering and society to deliver the knowledge necessary for a sustainable future
- **High Commissioner for Future Generations** strongly supported by MGs.

Section IV - Trends and Themes



- Different proposals on **Principle 10**, including:
 - Global convention on P10
 - Regional treaties to promote P10
 - International Court of the Environment to enforce transboundary issues
- Regional, National and Local
 - Nuanced enough to be considered separately
 - Commit to establishing **national SD councils** (NSDCs)
 - National policy reviews/SD-proofing
 - Strengthen science base of decision-making at local level
 - National Ombudspeople for Future Generations

Section IV – IFSD



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
44	Addition of “people-centred” governance.	NGOs/Women	
44	Addition of “nature-centred” governance	NGOs	
44	Reform of IFDF should deliver sustainable economies by ensuring adequate monitoring, review and implementation of sustainable development measures.	NGOs	
44	Addition of cultural dimension to traditional three pillars	Indigenous People/NGOs	
44	Replace “integrated” with “holistic” decision-making	Indigenous People	

Section IV – IFSD



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
44	Addition of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening participation of MGs • Gender-parity-based Sustainable Development institutions • Integration of global health and nutrition agencies • Ensure future generations are considered in decision-making 	Women/NGOs	
48	Reform ECOSOC to integrate and strengthen the sustainable development mandate	NGOs	
49	Upgrade the UN Commission on Sustainable Development to a new SDC	NGOs	

Section IV – IFSD



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
49	SDC should include independent monitoring and assessment tasks inter alia, assessing the social, economic, health, environmental and human rights implications of new treaties, programs and technologies	NGOs	
51	NGOs support option to strengthen UNEP	NGOs	
51	NGOs support option to upgrade UNEP to a specialised agency	NGOs	
51	Enhance the participation of local and subnational authorities by incorporating them into a new Stakeholder Group called 'Governmental Stakeholders'	Local Authorities	

Section IV – IFSD



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
52	Need for annual global review on the state of the planet (including social and economic dimensions)	NGOs	
53	Develop a new contract between science, engineering and society to deliver the knowledge necessary for a sustainable future.	Science & Technology	
55	Review the adequacy of MEAs and other international agreements to safeguard the Earth-system processes	NGOs	
56	In discussing delivery, transparency was clearly a part of good governance	NGO	
57	High Commissioner for Future Generations concept strengthened by amendments	Workers & Trade Unions/NGOs/Women	

Section IV – IFSD



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
57	<p>Alternatives to High Commission for Future Generations proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Tribunal of Environmental and Climate Justice to judge and sanction crimes that violate the rights of nature • High-level committee of experts to include representatives of all nine Major Groups to prepare options 	NGOs	
58	<p>Different proposals on Principle 10, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global convention on P10 • Regional treaties to promote P10 • International Court of the Environment to enforce transboundary issues 	NGOs/Workers & Trade Unions	

Section IV – IFSD



Para	Amendment	Major Group	Disagreement
59, 60 & 61	<p>Regional, National and Local:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuanced enough to be considered separately • Commit to establishing national SD councils (NSDCs) • National policy reviews/SD-proofing • Strengthen science base of decision-making • National Ombudsperson for Future Generations 	NGOs/Scientific & Technological Community/Women	

Takeaways

- NGO non-agreement
- People vs. planet conflict is resolvable
- Sound science as a basis for decision-making
- Much confusion remains around GE
 - Including the term itself
- MGs need to be clearer about what we want:
 - ECOSOC vs. SDC
 - Strengthen vs. Reform UNEP
- Culture a vital dimension of SD (along with 3 traditional dimensions)
- Need a stronger focus on what Rio+20 means at national/local levels and therefore implementation

Final Questions?



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