

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
Methods of Work**

A. Introduction

1. The open working group has been established as an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on sustainable development goals that is open to all Member States and Observer States of the United Nations and other observers that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly or ECOSOC and other stakeholders, with a view to developing global sustainable development goals to be agreed by the General Assembly, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012 in which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (or Rio +20).

2. The work of the open working group shall be guided by the rules of procedure, relevant rules and practices of the Committees of the General Assembly, unless decided otherwise by the open working group.

B. Composition and Organization of Work

3. The composition of the open working group shall at any one time comprise of 30 Member States drawn from each of the 30 countries or groups of countries listed below in accordance with the annex to General Assembly decision 67/555¹:

1. Algeria/Egypt/Morocco/Tunisia
2. Ghana
3. Benin
4. Kenya
5. United Republic of Tanzania
6. Congo
7. Zambia/Zimbabwe
8. Nauru/Palau/Papua New Guinea
9. Bhutan/Thailand/Viet Nam
10. India/Pakistan/Sri Lanka
11. China/Indonesia/Kazakhstan
12. Cyprus/Singapore/United Arab Emirates
13. Bangladesh/Republic of Korea/Saudi Arabia
14. Iran (Islamic Republic of)/Japan/Nepal
15. Colombia/Guatemala
16. Bahamas/Barbados
17. Guyana/Haiti/Trinidad and Tobago

¹ See A/67/L.48/Rev.1

18. Mexico/Peru
19. Brazil/Nicaragua
20. Argentina/Bolivia (Plurinational State of)/Ecuador
21. Australia/Netherlands/United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
22. Canada/Israel/United States of America
23. Denmark/Ireland/Norway
24. France/Germany/Switzerland
25. Italy/Spain/Turkey
26. Hungary
27. Belarus/Serbia
28. Bulgaria/Croatia
29. Montenegro/Slovenia
30. Poland/Romania

4. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/203, reports on the progress of work of the open working group will be made regularly to the General Assembly, taking into account the convening of the first high-level political forum, without prejudice to the format and organizational aspects of the forum, and the special event in 2013 to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The open working group will submit a report to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, containing a proposal for sustainable development goals for consideration and appropriate action.

5. At the beginning of its first formal meeting, the open working group shall elect two co-chairs, one from a developing country and one from a developed country.

6. The group's work shall be guided by the principles of openness, transparency, inclusiveness and consensus.

7. The OWG will adopt its report and recommendations by consensus, reflecting different options, if necessary.

8. The following may participate as observers in the meetings of the open working group in the manner outlined in ECOSOC decision 1993/215:

- Representatives of Specialised Agencies and related organizations; and
- Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC.

9. In accordance with the Rio+20 outcome document, the open working group may draw on the support of the inter-agency technical support team and expert panels, and all relevant expert advice, as needed.

10. The working methods may be re-visited when deemed necessary by the open working group.