

SWP

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik
German Institute for International and Security Affairs

Positioning the HLPF in relation to other Rio+20 follow-up processes

Expert Group Meeting on the High-level political forum

UNDESA, New York, 3-4 April 2013

Dr. Marianne Beisheim
Global Issues Division

Follow-up Processes



- CSD ↗ universal high-level political forum
- SDGs/Post-2015 Agenda: goals, targets, indicators
- ECOSOC reform
- SD financing / Assessment of financial needs
- Technology transfer
- Science-policy interface
- Ombudsperson/High-level Representative for future generations
- 10 YFP Sustainable consumption and production
- Registry of commitments, SD partnerships
- et al.

Ownership, Action and Tailored Support

Rio+20 = consensus on functions of hlpf:

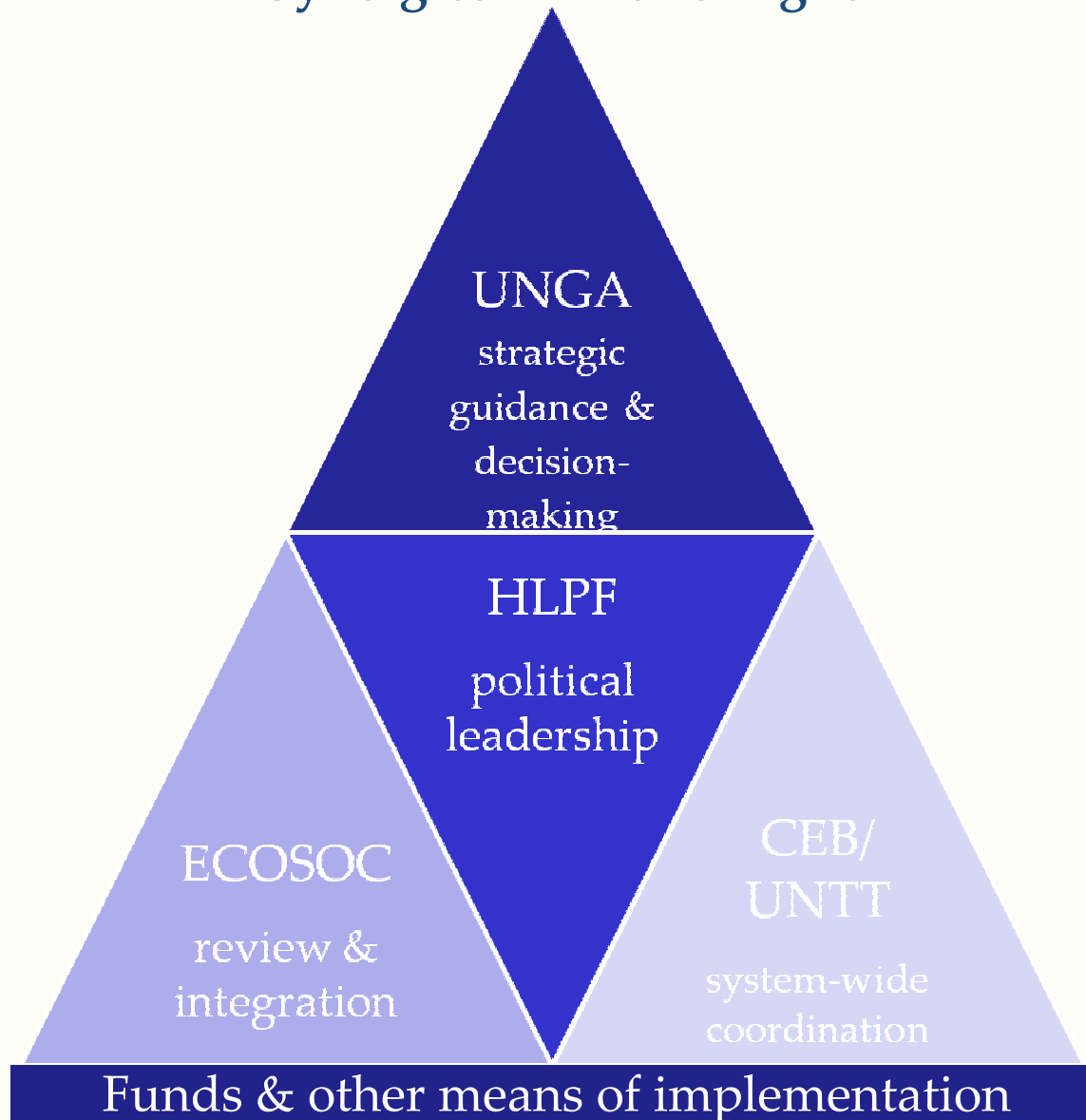
- *political leadership*
- *action-oriented agenda, new and emerging challenges*
- *follow up and review progress*
- *improve cooperation and coordination w/i UN system*
- *provide for access to adequate financing, technology transfer, knowledge, best practise*

>> all for the *implementation* of sustainable development!

>> w/o new bureaucracy, exploit existing administ. capacity

Flexible & Central Platform for SD:

Synergies with existing fora



Use and Improve what is there: Reform ECOSOC's "Annual Ministerial Review"

Current Mandate:

- Assess progress made towards the implementation of the goals and targets agreed at the major UN conferences and summits (incl. MDGs, now SDGs/Post-2015 goals)
- Contribute to scaling-up and accelerating action, serving as global high-level forum with broad-based participation, where lessons learned are exchanged and successful practices and approaches that merit scaling-up are identified
- main elements:
 - (A) national voluntary presentations of both developing and developed countries on their progress in implementing internationally agreed goals
 - (B) thematic review and global review of the agenda

HLPF: Spur Action via a Periodic Peer Review

- Use AMR ... and *do better!* (role model UPR of HRC)
- *state-driven* process, *equal treatment* for every country
- *periodic peer review*:
 - every 5 years w/i *regional group*
 - geared at *constructive learning, experience sharing* and *effective support*
 - start *voluntary* with pilot countries, provide for *incentives* so that everyone wants to participate
- ECOSOC context, but *universal* participation at ministerial-level, participation of relevant UN institutions, major groups and other stakeholders, High-level Representative for Future Generations

HLPF: Spur Action via a Periodic Peer Review

(A) National presentations on progress

- Post-2015 goals/SDGs provide for *goals, targets and indicators*
- *national pledges and benchmarks* enable a differentiated approach according to priorities and capacities
- *scoping* involves a discussion of the State Party-established pledges and benchmarks in order to arrive at a consensus about them (using expertise of UN special agencies and other expert groups)
- *reports on and assessment* of progress/gaps/barriers – and of necessary *support* to do better during next cycle

HLPF: Incentivise + link to Financing for SD

- assess special *needs* of every country
- ... *and* provide for *access* to adequate and tailored financial and technical support, best practices and successful policies > draft expenditure plan
- using the *existing* funds and mechanisms (according to their respective mandates)
- *matching process*: financial needs \Leftrightarrow existing funds
- but also identify *gaps in financing*
- and assess *compliance with financial commitments*
- look for *innovative sources of finance* for SD

HLPF: Reporting and Dialogue

Every *five* years within *regional* groups:

- *national progress report*
(prepare/discuss at country & regional level,
could also include voluntary initiatives/partnerships)
- *compilation of UN information*
- *summary of stakeholders' information*

>> basis for *interactive dialogue*

at HLPF preparatory committee session in May

>> peer group drafts *outcome report with recommendations*,
State-Party can accept/note, but should comment all

>> HLPF high-level meeting discusses reports and
adopts them (annually in July)

HLPF and the General Assembly

>> HLPF reports on results of review directly to the General Assembly (incl. recommendations, draft resolutions)

(B) Thematic and Global Review of the Agenda

- >> use high-level section at the General Assembly every two (rather than four) years for
- high-level *decision making*
 - *strategic guidance* to assess and adjust procedures, funds, etc. (QCPR of UN operational activities)
 - *agenda setting esp. for new and emerging challenges*

Objectives: Building “The Future We Want”

Added value:

- ownership via national pledges
- accountability via national benchmarks and reports
- improved implementation via peer learning and matching demand for support with suppliers
- better cooperation and coordination w/i UN system leading to tailored support and access to means of implementation
- center piece: political leadership of HLPF