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**24 June 2014**

# **UNDP China Global Issues Newsletter**

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## UN Headquarters Updates

### In Informal-Informal Session, OWG Reviews SDGs 1-7

9-11 June 2014



On 9-11 June 2014, The UN General Assembly's Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) held a three-day "informal informal" session to begin consideration of the Zero Draft of the Group's report.

In the consultations held in New York, US, Member States reportedly considered options for merging the 17 proposed Goals, the targets listed under the first seven proposed Goals, and means of implementation (MOI) for the goals and targets. Member States voiced support for retaining some of the proposed stand-alone Goals, called for deleting others, and proposed various ways to combine Goals. Positions diverged regarding whether MOI should accompany each SDG.

The OWG Co-Chairs introduced a new reference document, "Mainstreamed Topics for SDGs," that

indicates how "non-headline" issues are streamlined and reflected both directly and indirectly in the current negotiating document. These issues include youth, persons with disabilities, migrants, least developed countries (LDCs), indigenous peoples, gender equality, human rights, family, financial inclusion, culture, disaster preparedness and resilience building, climate and children.

The Co-Chairs, Csaba Kőrösi of Hungary and Macharia Kamau of Kenya, are expected to consolidate the views expressed on proposed SDGs 1-7, and to begin with proposed SDG 8 at the next formal session of the OWG, on 16-20 June 2014. The Co-Chairs reminded delegates that the content of informal-informal discussions will not be binding in the formal OWG setting.

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/in-informal-informal-session-owg-reviews-sdgs-1-7/>

### UNGA Discusses Post-2015 Role of Human Rights, Rule of Law

9-10 June 2014



GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

UN General Assembly (UNGA), John Ashe, hosted a High-level Event on the Post-

2015 Development Agenda addressing the contributions of human rights and the rule of law. Participants emphasized the role of human rights and the rule of law in ending extreme poverty, balancing the needs of people and planet, reducing the vulnerability of the poor, closing social and economic gaps and building the future we want.

The two-day event took place from 9-10 June 2014, at UN Headquarters in New York, US, and was the sixth and last in a series of events aimed at "setting the stage" for the post-2015 development agenda.

Panel discussions considered how the integration of human rights and the rule of law in the post-2015 agenda can contribute to improving development outcomes, poverty eradication and sustainable development. In closing remarks, Ashe recalled participants' views that "there is no need for a dedicated goal on human rights" while different perspectives exist "on whether the rule of law should be included as a standalone goal or should be mainstreamed across all other goals."

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/unga-discusses-post-2015-role-of-human-rights-rule-of-law/>

## UNGA Elects Sam Kutesa of Uganda as 69th UNGA President

9-11 June 2014



The UN General Assembly elected Sam Kahamba Kutesa of Uganda as President of its 69th session. Remark- ing on his election, UN Secretary-General Ban

Ki-moon and current UNGA President John Ashe underscored the 69th session as a critical time for the UN in elaborating the post-2015 development agenda.

Kutesa, who is currently Uganda's Minister for Foreign Affairs, proposed as the theme of the 69th session: 'Delivering on and Implementing a Transformative Post-2015 Development Agenda.' He said this underscores the need to agree on the post-2015 agenda and also ensure its implementation. He emphasized the need "to address the means of implementation, in terms of financial resources, technology development, transfer and capacity-building," including a strengthened global partnership. Kutesa also expressed commitment to reaching a global

agreement on climate change, and advancing gender equality and women's empowerment.

Ban said the role of the 69th Assembly President will be "especially important during the Assembly's upcoming session, when many critical streams of work will converge and reach moments of truth." Ban highlighted key actions that UNGA 69 will address, including: accelerating achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); agreeing on a concise set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and mobilizing ambition for a new climate change agreement. He added that it will be a period of "great consequence for the well-being and shared fate of people and the planet," and urged cooperation

In press briefings, Ban spokesperson addressed questions on Kutesa's election in relation to Uganda's anti-homosexuality laws. He stressed that the UNGA President is selected by Member States, while Ban's position is that LGBT people should enjoy the same human rights and protection of the rule of law as all other people.

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/unga-elects-sam-kutesa-of-uganda-as-69th-unga-president/>

## ECOSOC Youth Forum Presents Global Youth Call on Post-2015 Agenda

2 to 3 June 2014



Young people at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum discussed and presented an outcome document, 'The Global Youth Call,' requesting the mainstreaming of youth issues in the post-2015 development agenda and focusing on a range of targets related to education, employment and entrepreneurship, health, good governance, and peace and stability.

The youth-related targets address many issues, including: universal access to quality primary and post-primary education; reduction of the number of unemployed youth; meaningful and inclusive

participation of young people in public decision making, governance and peace building; adolescent and youth health; and elimination of violence and discrimination.

Opening the Youth Forum, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted that half the world's population is under 25, and that youth engagement is now needed 'like never before' as there are around 500 days to the deadline for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the global sustainable development goals are being negotiated and climate change remains "a clear and present danger."

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/programme-for-post-2015-stakeholder-engagement-launched/>

## UN-NGLS, UNMC, UNFPA, UNV Launch Dialogue on Partnerships with Civil Society

3 June 2014



The UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS), UN Millennium Campaign (UNMC), UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and UN Volunteers (UNV) Programme have launched an e-discussion as part of the 'Dialogues on Partnerships with Civil Society,' which is taking place on the World We Want 2015 Platform. The consultation is one of six dialogues on implementing the agenda, following thematic and national consultations in 2012-2013. The consultation aims to identify best practices and recommendations for successful partnerships between government and civil society.

According to a joint concept note from the co-leaders, the consultation also aims to: enhance civil society influence in shaping Member States positions on the post-2015 process; enable civil society to contribute to shaping key policies related to Means of Implementation (MOI) for the post-2015 development

agenda; stimulate advocacy and support in favor of policy change among civil society at national and regional levels; and create or strengthen mechanisms to monitor the implementation of State commitments under the post-2015 agenda.

The Dialogue includes a special MOI focus question, which asks "What can trigger new partnerships and voluntary commitments, and what can make them successful in advancing economic, social and environmental progress?" The Dialogue also includes three questions on: recommendations for capacity building, mechanisms and policies needed for successful government and civil society partnerships to implement the post-2015 agenda at national and local levels; how people can engage in implementing the agenda in different thematic areas; and how to leverage and support civil society's role in monitoring the post-2015 framework and ensuring accountability.

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/un-nxls-unmc-unfpa-unv-launch-dialogue-on-partnerships-with-civil-society/>

## Co-Chairs Issue Zero Draft with 17 SDGs

2 June 2014



The Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group (OWG) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have issued the "zero draft" of goals and targets. Titled 'Introduction and Proposed Goals and Targets on Sustainable Development for the Post2015 Development Agenda,' the zero draft proposes 17 SDGs to be attained by 2030, as well as associated targets.

The document states that "poverty eradication is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development," also recognizing sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and natural resource management and protection as essential requirements for sustainable development.

It reaffirms, *inter alia*: the importance of human rights principles, including the rule of law, good governance and gender equality; different approaches and visions to achieve the three dimensions of sustainable development, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities; and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR). Proposed targets focus on specific proposed Goals while also addressing cross-cutting issues. For instance, the goal on ending poverty includes a target on integrating biodiversity conservation measures into national and local development strategies, planning processes and poverty reduction strategies. The draft also notes the need to focus on vulnerable groups, particularly women, in goals on ending poverty, ending hunger, securing water and sanitation for all, among others.

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/owg-co-chairs-issue-zero-draft-with-17-sdgs/>

## Global Updates

### AUC Chair Launches Common African Position on the Post-2015 Agenda

4 June 2014 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



The African Union Commission (AUC) Chair Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma officially launched the Common African

Position (CAP) on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The launch took place on 3 June, at AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and sought to engage African stakeholders, enhance ownership of the CAP and strengthen partnerships with non-African stakeholders.

Zuma said the CAP “will be pursued regardless of the results of the negotiation outcomes” and called for making the CAP people centered and sustainable, with the aim of contributing to a prosperous, integrated and united Africa. Carlos Lopes, UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Executive Secretary, delivered a presentation on the role of multilateral organizations in implementing the CAP, underscoring UNECA's continued

commitment to the CAP. Lopes stressed “it is important that the African Development Goals are adapted to measure progress on African priorities.”

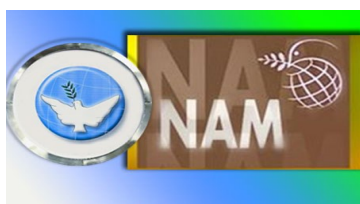
Anthony Maruping, AUC Commissioner of Economic Affairs, presented the CAP, emphasizing its goals of eradicating poverty and ensuring human development. He explained the CAP includes six pillars: environmental sustainability, natural resources management and risk management of natural disasters; finance and partnership; human-centered development; peace and security; science, technology and innovation; and structural economic transformation and inclusive growth.

<http://www.uneca.org/post2015/pages/common-african-position-post-2015-development-agenda-launched>

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/auc-chair-launches-common-african-position-on-the-post-2015-agenda/>

### NAM Summit Reinforces Coordination with G-77/China on Post-2015 Agenda

26-29 May 2014 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



The 17th Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) agreed to strengthen cooperation between NAM and the G-77/China, in the

context of implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and shaping the post-2015 development agenda. The NAM summit, which took place in Algeria, adopted the Algiers Declaration.

The Declaration notes the complementarity of the G-77 and NAM groups in UN and other multilateral forums as the main economic and political platforms for developing countries. During the summit, the 20-year old NAM-G77 Joint

Coordination Committee met at the ministerial level for the first time, and a special event took place on 30 May to mark the 50th anniversary of the G-77's creation.

Foreign Minister of Algeria Ramtane Lamamra, as Chair of the NAM summit, emphasized the role of the NAM-G77 Joint Coordination Committee and called for a revival of multilateralism, including reform of the global economic and financial system. He proposed to convene a ministerial meeting of the Committee in New York, US, in September 2015, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Bandung Declaration and the 70th anniversary of the creation of the UN

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/nam-summit-reinforces-coordination-with-g-77china-on-post-2015-agenda/>

## Declaration Highlights Energy Security, Climate Change, Sustainable Development

5 June 2014 Brussels, Belgium



The Presidents of the European Council and European Commission (EC) have gathered with leaders from Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the US for a G7 Summit, during which they discussed issues related to Ukraine and global foreign policy issues, as well as energy, climate, economy and development, among others. The resulting Brussels G7 Summit Declaration addresses each of these issues and affirms the G7's commitment to "the values of freedom and democracy, and their universality and to fostering peace and security."

On energy security, the Declaration states that the use of "energy supplies as a means of political coercion or as a threat to security is unacceptable." It endorses the principles of the Rome G7 Energy Initiative, agreed to in May 2014, as a guide to domestic policies for building a "more competitive, diversified, resilient and low-carbon energy system."

On climate change, the Declaration recognizes the need for "urgent and concrete action" on climate change as called for in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) and underscores the determination of G7 countries to reach a global agreement on climate change in 2015 "that is ambitious, inclusive and reflects changing global circumstances."

On development, the Declaration highlights sustainable and inclusive development and greater prosperity for all as a "foundational commitment that unites our people and our countries," underscoring the G7's commitment to reach and implement an "ambitious and universal post-2015 agenda."

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/g7-declaration-highlights-energy-security-climate-change-sustainable-development/>

## GLOBE World Summit of Legislators Resolution Urges Climate Action

6-8 June 2014 Mexico City, Mexico



Participants at the Second World Summit of Legislators, organized by the Global Legislators Organisation (GLOBE), agreed on a Legislators Resolution encouraging national governments and the UN to take seven main actions, with a focus on strengthening climate change mitigation. The Summit took place on 6-8 June 2014, in Mexico City, Mexico, hosted by the Mexican Congress.

Over three days, legislators discussed approaches to national legislation on adaptation, forests, mitigation and natural capital accounting. The Summit heard reports from: the GLOBE Climate Legislation Initiative (GCLI), the GLOBE Natural Capital Initiative (GNCI) and the GLOBE Forest Legislation Initiative (GFLI), which GLOBE established following the first World Summit of Legislators in 2012.

Participants highlighted the importance of involving Parliaments in national climate and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) plans, and underscored the role of renewable energy in addressing climate change. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) cited efforts to reform its Forest Code to ensure fair sharing of REDD benefits. Bangladesh said climate change legislation should address climate change, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and sustainable development.

<http://www.globeinternational.org/news/item/world-summit-of-legislators-resolution>

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/globe-world-summit-of-legislators-resolution-urges-climate-action/>

## Asia-Pacific Meeting Considers Tapping Regional Savings to Finance Sustainable Development

10-11 June 2014 Jakarta, Indonesia



participants at an Asia-Pacific Outreach Meeting on Sustainable Development Financing, co-hosted by the Government of Indonesia and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), considered mobilizing regional savings to finance sustainable development.

UN Under-Secretary-General and ESCAP Executive Secretary Shamshad Akhtar told participants that US\$2.5 trillion could provide universal access to health, education and social protection in the region and build needed regional infrastructure. Noting the region's high savings rate, she said this amount is a fraction of the estimated US\$33 trillion held by wealthy individuals in the region. She urged

governments to consider how to create an enabling environment and incentives to encourage private sector investment in regional sustainable development.

Outcomes of the Asia-Pacific meeting, which took place from 10-11 June 2014, in Jakarta, Indonesia, will feed into the work of the ICESDF, which will report to the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on options and proposals for sustainable development financing. Other outreach meetings of the Committee took place in Helsinki, Finland; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia between April to June 2014.

<http://post2015.iisd.org/news/nam-summit-reinforces-coordination-with-g-77china-on-post-2015-agenda/>

## SE4ALL Holds First Forum, Addressing Energy in Post-2015 Agenda

26-29 May 2014 New York, US



The first Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Forum convened from 4-6 June 2014, at UN Headquarters in New York, US. The Forum's 1,000 participants assessed progress on sustainable energy since the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, or Rio+20) in June 2012, showcased successes, shared best practices, presented new commitments, and catalyzed action to help shape the global energy debate for the next decade.

On the first day of the Forum, representatives from governments, UN agencies, international organizations, the private sector and civil society attended 46 different parallel panel discussions featuring over 200 speakers. During the second day, a Global Leadership Dialogue was convened through

global leaders' panels; the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All 2014-2024 was officially launched, with the first two years to focus on energy for women and children's health; and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) launched REmap 2030, a renewable energy road map to double the share of renewable energy in the world's energy mix between 2010 and 2030.

On the final day, ministers, government delegates and other stakeholders addressed energy in the post-2015 development agenda. Kandeh Yumkella, SE4ALL CEO, and several speakers welcomed the inclusion of energy as the seventh proposed SDG in the post-2015 development agenda

<http://energy-l.iisd.org/news/se4all-holds-first-forum-addressing-energy-in-post-2015-agenda/>



# Voices



*“As we look to formulate a universal post-2015 development agenda, the vigor and leadership of the G77 and China is crucially important. Countries cannot achieve sustainable development while conflict rages, while human rights are breached, while good governance and the rule of law are neglected, and while inequality and injustice feed the fires of instability. That is why it is essential that members of the G77 and China support each other.”*

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon made remarks at Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 and China emphasizing the significance of the cooperation between G77 and China. He urged the leaders to place political priority to meet the targets of the Millennium Development Goals.

[http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/sgspeeches/statments\\_full.asp?](http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/sgspeeches/statments_full.asp?)

*“I call on all Liberians, those in decision making positions, be it in government, private sector, academia, civil society and other organizations to take a serious look at the content of the CAP and see how national policies and strategies are similar or different and how we can view this document as the roadmap to development”*

The Liberia President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf made remarks on the National Launch of the Common African Position (CAP) on the Post-2015 Development Agenda on May 27. She addressed that CAP is intended to inform policy makers and all stakeholders of the development agenda that will succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015 and enable Liberians take full ownership of the next process of the agenda.

<http://www.frontpageafricaonline.com/index.php/politic/1773-pres-sirleaf-launches-cap-on-post-2015-agenda>



*“Coming out of Rio, we have agreed that the post-2015 development agenda must be inclusive and people-centered. At its core, it must respect the inalienable rights and freedoms of all peoples and promote the rule of law.”*

Mr. John W. Ashe, President of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, made remarks in the Opening Session of High-Level Event of the General Assembly : “Contributions of Human Rights and the Rule of Law in the Post-2015 Development Agenda”, stating that respecting human rights and the rule of law is central to the development process.

[http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/pdf/statements/06102014HLE%20on%20HR%20and%20the%20RoL\\_opening\\_final.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/ga/president/68/pdf/statements/06102014HLE%20on%20HR%20and%20the%20RoL_opening_final.pdf)



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