

Briefing for G15 on Post 2015 Development Agenda

Agenda

Monday, July 29, 2013, 13.00

South Centre

- 13.00 Arrival and light lunch
- Welcome and Introductions
(Dr. Mariama Williams, Dr. Manuel Montes)
- Opening Remarks Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha
- Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the UN Geneva
- Remarks by Mr. Mohamed Nasr, Chair of the Working Group
on Sectoral Cooperation & Counselor, Permanent Mission of
Egypt to the UN Geneva
- 13.25 – 15.00 Interactive Discussion on the Post 2015 Development Agenda
1. Overview of the Landscape of the post 2015 development agenda
(Williams & Montes)
 2. The Context, Content & Process of the Post 2015 Development
Agenda: the state of play
 3. Strategic entry points for collective intervention of G-15
 4. Summary & Closing.

Snapshots of the Post 2015 Development Agenda Process and Debate*

0.0 Background

High level plenary meeting of the 65th UNGA on the MDGs in September 2010:

- Called for acceleration of the programme toward the achievements of the MDGS and consideration of way to advance the UN Development Agenda beyond 2015.

1.0 UN engagements in fulfilling this:

1. UN TASK TEAM (UNTT) on Post 2015 (chaired by UNDESA and UNDP. 60 agencies and international organizations within UN System)

Output: *Realizing the Future We Want* (June 2012)

2. Launch of High Level Panel of Eminent Persons: co-chairs 3 president, 3 continents— President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Liberia; and PM David Cameron, UK

Output: High level Panel report, *A New Global Partnership*

3. Special Adviser on Post 2015, Amina Mohammad, Nigeria
4. Launch of national and global consultations around 11 thematic areas (the World we want 2015)
5. National consultations led by UN Development group 70+ countries on sharing vision of the future we want.
6. Regional consultations by RECS

Output: report on regional perspectives on the Post 2015 development Agenda

7. UN Development Solutions Network (Jeffrey Sachs, 2012) focus on 10 critical areas for sustainable development.

Output: Report, *An Action Agenda for Sustainable Development*

8. UN Global Compact

Output: Report, *Corporate Sustainability and the United Nations Post 2015 Development Agenda*

* Informal Package Prepared for G15 Briefing on the Post 2015 Development Agenda. Monday 29, July 2015. Prepared by Mariama Williams, Senior Programme Officer, South Centre. All errors and omissions are the responsibility of the author. No endorsement of information implied.

Note: 4 ASGs lead process: 1) DESA; 2) Development Policy (UNDP); 3) Policy and programme (UN Women); 4) Special Adviser on Post 2015 development planning (Amina Mohammad, Nigeria). ONE SECRETARIAT: facilitates coordination and coherence across work streams.

Mid-term 2013: UN SG Report to UN Special Event to follow-up efforts made towards Achieving the MDGs, SEPTEMBER 25, 2013.

3 phases:

- Global online discussion (the world we want2015),
- Regional consultations
- High level Meetings (linked to the 11 thematic consultations).

For the Thematic Consultations & Government sponsors, please see *Dossier on Post 2015* (in packet).

Origins of the SDGs and OWGs

Rio +20 (UN conference on sustainable development), Rio, Brazil June 2012.

Outcome agreed to:

1) Launch a process to develop a set of SDGs and called for establishing an Open Working Group (OWG) of 30 representatives from the 5 UN regional groups, nominated by UN Members, to work on a SDG proposal to be submitted to the UNGA for consideration and appropriate action at its 68th session.

2) The establishment of an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on OWG/SDGs (open to all stakeholders, with a view to developing global SDGs to be adopted by the UNGA.

Conference outcome document: *The Future We Want* (endorsed by UNGA resolution 66/288).

UNGA to make decisions on:

- a) Designating a body to operationalize the 10 year framework of programmes (10YFP) on sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).
- b) Determine modalities for the 3 international Conference on SIDS (in 2014).
- c) Identify the format and organizational aspects of a HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF) to replace the CSD.
- d) Strengthening of UNEP.
- e) Establish an INTEGGOVERNMENTAL PROCESS under the UNGA to prepare a report proposing options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy.
- f) Consideration of a set of recommendations from the SG for a facilitating mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies.

According to the outcome document, SDGs are to be in accordance with:

- Commitment to the full and timely achievement of MDGs
- Respecting all Rio Principles
- Taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and priorities
- SDGs are to be action oriented, concise and easy to communicate, limited in number, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries, focused on the priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development
- Coherence and coordination with SDG and post 2015 development agenda

- Need for targets and goals to assess progress (taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and levels of development).
- Importance of global integrated and scientifically based information on sustainable development and of supporting regional economic commissions in collecting and compiling national inputs to inform the global efforts.

Initial input for the OWG to come from the UNSG in consultation with national governments
The work of the UN Task Team to is also to feed into the work of OWG. UNDP and DESA also provide inputs to the OWG.

The OWG. Established by decision 67/555 22 January 2013.

Six seats held by single countries: Benin (LDCs), Congo, Ghana (ECOWAS), Hungary, Kenya and Tanzania

Nine seats are held by pairs of countries:

Bahamas/Barbados

Belarus/Serbia

Brazil/Nicaragua

Bulgaria/Croatia

Colombia/Guatemala

Mexico/Peru

Montenegro/Slovenia

Poland/Romania

Zambia/Zimbabwe

Fourteen seats are held by trios of countries:

Argentina/Bolivia/Ecuador

Australia/Netherlands/UK

Bangladesh/Republic of Korea/Saudi Arabia

Bhutan/Thailand/Viet Nam

Canada/Israel/US

Denmark/Ireland/Norway

France/Germany/Switzerland

Italy/Spain/Turkey

China/Indonesia/Kazakhstan

Cyprus/Singapore/United Arab Emirates

Guyana/Haiti/Trinidad & Tobago (CARICOM)

India/Pakistan/Sri Lanka

Iran/Japan/Nepal

Nauru/Palau/Papua New Guinea—Pacific SIDS (PSIDS)

One seat is shared by four countries: Algeria/Egypt/Morocco/Tunisia

Summary of the work of the Open Working Group (OWG), 2013

Co-chairs: Csaba Korois, PR Hungary and Macharia Kamau, PR, Kenya

The OWG organized eight thematic meetings as part of stocktaking exercises and to deliberate ways to best address major current and emerging development challenges.

OWG1 (14-15 March 2013)

(Expert Group Meeting on Science and SDG, 20-12 March 2013; informal consultation on the programme of work for the OWG—how to identify thematic issue areas and cluster them; importance of poverty eradication as overarching issues, how to document each OWG meeting.)

OWG2 (17-19 April 2013): conceptualization of SDG and the SDG process; poverty eradication

OWG3 (22-24 May 2013): thematic issues: a) food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture, desertification, land degradation and drought, and b) water and sanitation

OWG4 (17-19 June 2013): Thematic issues—(a) employment and decent work for all, social protection, youth, education, and culture and (b) health, population dynamics.

Now at mid-point; Co-chairs will produce a short progress report to be delivered to UNGA by end of August.

The OWG will present a first preliminary report to the GA in September 2013; this report will not contain recommendations for goals, but will outline the process and some of the issues discussed so far.

UNGA special event on achieving the MDGs Sept 25, 2013

OWG5 (25-27 November 2013): sustained and inclusive economic growth, macroeconomic policy questions (including international trade, international financial system and external debt sustainability), infrastructure development and **ENERGY**.

OWG6 (9-13 December 2013): MOI; the global partnership for achieving sustainable development; need of countries in special situations: African countries, LDCs, Landlocked developing countries, and SIDs as well as specific challenges of middle income countries; and human rights and the RTD and Global governance.

OWG 7 (6-10 January 2014): sustainable cities and human settlements, sustainable transport, sustainable consumption and production (including chemicals and waste); and **CLIMATE CHANGE** and disaster risk reductions.

OWG 8 (3.7 February 2014): oceans and seas, forest, biodiversity; promoting equality including social equity and gender equality and women's empowerment; and conflict prevention, post conflict peace building and the promotion of durable peace, rule of law and governance.

Scope and outcome of the key OWG meetings of 2013

OWG2 (17-19 April): conceptualization the SDGs and SDG process. Overarching g framework of poverty eradication and sustainable development; cross-sectoral issues: governance, gender equality and women's empowerment, human rights and right based approaches, means of implementation; work programem for 2013-2014

On the thorny issue of how to elaborate universal goals that apply to both DCs and DVGs while allowing for different national circumstances, capacities and priorities, the Technical Support Team (TST) presented 2 options:

A common set of goals coupled with differentiated targets and timelines that take into account national circumstances etc., OR

A common set of goals with multiple sets of indicators and targets as a DASHBOARD or menu which countries could themselves prioritize when designing their development agenda

Conceptualization of SDG: universal, ambitions and comprehensive than MDGs (build on success of MDGs); measurable, time bound and limited; applicable to all but allow for differentiation; respect CBDR;

G77 & China: supported by MOI; Agenda 21 and Joburg. POI, increase participation of DVGs in financial institutions, gender equality and empowerment of women, access to effective justice systems, atmosphere and climate change, forest, oceans and seas, water, biodiversity; sustainable cities and settlement and SCP.

LDCs: principle of differential and preferential treatment for LDCs, population dynamics, access to energy, peace and security, strong voice for LDCs (LDC have a 14 member core group to participate)

EU: overarching framework with single set of goals, themes addressed in an inter-related manner. Inclusive and transparent process, ambitious but flexible

Tanzania: focus on remaining MDGs implementation gaps, transformative successor goals, address underlying structural constraints to implementation

Nicaragua & Brazil: analysis of issue hindering implementation of SDGs—trade, debt, financing. Elaboration of each SDG should include identification of sources of financing.

Columbia, Guatemala and Peru: support for dashboard approach.

OWG3 (22-24 May 2013): thematic issues: a) food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture, desertification, land degradation and drought. And b) water and sanitation

Food etc.: presentations by FAO, WFP, IFAD & UN Convention to Combat Desertification

OWG4 (17-19 June): Thematic issues—(a) employment and decent work for all, social protection, youth, education, and culture and (b) health, population dynamics.

Presentation of UNSDSN report, presentation of SG High level Panel of Eminent Persons on the post 2015 Development Agenda Report. They report identified key main drivers of change:

- Demographic changes
- Rapid expansion of new technologies
- Availability of finance and need to organize the distribution of funds
- Climate change

South Centre Approach and Framework for the POST 2015 Development Agenda

The MDGs do not encompass a very large number of development issues. The MDGs abstract from structural pressures and constraints that developing countries face externally and domestically.

Development is more than poverty reduction. There is need for a broader agenda than the MDGs. One that takes on board:

- Domestic policies
- Global environmental conditions and its impact on development
- Global economic conditions and its constraints on development: WTO, IMF, IPRs. All these need to be reviewed and reformed
- The need to review commitments made by the DC that were not fulfilled.
- The need to review systemic issues
- The need to establish international financial system that is stable and supports development; and may impose multilateral discipline and countries that have large impact on economies.
- The need to take a whole economy approach beyond just looking at sectoral issues

It is important not to simply focus on targets and goals. Rather, the Post 2015 development Agenda must be from and through the eyes and perspectives of the south—peoples and governments.

Hence, it is critically important to create a counter narrative to the emerging one now shaping the post 2015 agenda.

A Development agenda from point of view south has the following key components:

1. Structural flexibility at national level (initial condition, national priorities)
2. Cognition of inequality in the assessment of outcome. Focus on the process of development for the living conditions and poverty eradication for the poorest 25% to 50% of the population. Focus on inequality of outcomes.
3. Means and process; structural transformation in productive capacity that are conducive to employment creation
4. The anchor is the economic pillar.

5. Policy space for public actions

6. Grounded in the distinction between *national context* and *international context*: national context is important in redesigning strategies and reformulating policies and rethinking development is important to take into account national context, international context focus on character of rules set that enlarge policy space, including looking beyond narrowed or simplistic, or flawed notions of 'partnerships' and fixation with the private sectors

7. Grounded in the principle of Solidarity

8. Emphasis on capacity mobilization—mobilizing internal capacity. Generate development from local resources.

Ultimately, the MDGs and SDGs will come together. But with care and understanding; they are not the same: SDGs is about sustainability, which was missing from the MDGs and which is long term. Both have different time frame and dimension. SDGs—long term, MDGs, short term and was specific to of subset of countries: LDCs etc.

South Centre work on the issues (Please see South Bulletin #73, in packet):

- 1) Goals: Inequality, Financial stability, Full employment, Food and Nutrition, and Poverty.
- 2) Concept paper on Sustainable development (with annex on Rio outcome –SDG).

G15 and Post 2015 Development Agenda - Connectedness

I. G15 members and status in OWG

1. Algeria... member of group of four (with Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia)
2. Egypt..... member of group of four (with Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia)
- 3. Kenya.... Single country & Co-chair of OWG**
4. Nigeria...NOT A MEMBER OF OWG
5. Senegal.....NOT A MEMBER OF OWG
6. Zimbabwe... member of group of two countries (with Zambia)
7. India.... Member of group of three countries (with Pakistan and Sri Lanka)
8. Indonesia...Member of group of three countries (with China and Kazakhstan)
9. Iran...Islamic Republic of ... member of group of three countries (with Japan and Nepal)
10. Malaysia....NOT A MEMBER OF OWG
11. Sri Lanka Member of group of three countries (with India and Pakistan)
12. Argentina...Member of group of three countries (with Bolivia, Plurinational state of, and Ecuador)
13. BrazilMember of group of two countries (with Nicaragua)
14. Chile....NOT A Member of OWG
15. Jamaica...NOT A MEMBER OF OWG
16. Mexico...Member of group of two countries (with Peru)
17. Venezuela...NOT A MEMBER OF THE OWG

II. The Way in – strategic entry points for intervention

A. Process:

- ✚ “ Provide input to the intergovernmental process: synthesize and consolidate opinions of members into a few priorities and offer a narrative to inform a framework for members’ discussion... “
- ✚ Come up with own narrative and alternative development agenda; feed this through G77 (have limited influence as not a member of the OWG in terms of decision making).
OWG (co-led by Kenya, a member of G-15; and other members of G15 on the OWG).
- ✚ Target GA special session on MDG and the Post 2015... **September 25, 2013**
Prepare preparatory document for the meeting

B. Content Gain leverage and traction in the discussion and debate

- Development dimensions
- Universality—agenda focused on all developing countries, not just a subset
- Transformative agenda (how and where to make transformational change—in terms of the way the economy work, the economy and environment
- Shape Perspective on the narrative on the concept of Partnership. *What does the G-15 want to say on this?* (current pathway approach: is two-fold: 1) shift burden of responsibility from DC to DVGs and 2) private sectors
- Sectoral approach and systems approach

C. G15- Sectoral approach must:

- Approach from point of view of structural transformation in productive capacity leading to employment creation and sustainable livelihoods
- Fit into a coherent and holistic strategy for industrial development and the enhancement of productive capacity. Need to define what is needed in each sector and integrate cohesively.
- Need to be careful of goals in the sector can be dangerous outside of cohesive unitary framework.
- Avoid obsessing with goals and targets. But given the terrain goals and targets are what will give traction in the debate
- Health and Energy have place cards in the debate.

G15 Sectoral Issues and the Post 2015 Development Agenda – ENERGY

Consultation on Energy: co-led by UNIDO, UN DESA and World Bank with support from UNPD. (Aim of consultation: collect stakeholders views on lessons learned from the MDGs and the post 2015 agenda.) Collected inputs from global online discussion, regional consultation and HLMs.

Online (The World WE Want 2015—10 weeks Jan-March 2013)—issues commented on: why does energy matter, what the challenges and opportunities, and what can be done about it; the energy nexus and solutions to the energy challenge; and how to effectively integrate energy issues into the post 2015 development framework.

Issues highlighted and around which there seem to be some convergence:

- **Critical need for universal energy access and energy for all**
- Importance of consistent level frameworks and policies that build institutional capacity and attract investment
- Engagement of public and private
- MDBs in finance greater energy access
- Need for countries to choose pathways most suited to their needs
- Strong inter-linkage among all the thematic consultation
- Raised concerns about the need for market driven solutions to energy crisis and difference of opinion on the motivation of businesses

1) Regional Consultations on energy aimed to finalize a common vision as recommendations to high level Panel (New Delhi Feb 2013, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania March 2013, Merida, Mexico, March 2013). Highlights include:

- need for simple and aspirational goal on energy;
- the role of energy access in economic growth, social equity and preservation of the environment;
- the need to redirect energy subsidies to those who need them the most;
- the role of communities in decision making related to energy, and the need for international support to build on national ownership and complement local efforts;
- the need for indicators, particularly gender indicators, and monitoring;
- the integration of other sectors such as education and health

- 2) High Level Meeting on Energy and the post 2015 DA. 9 April 2013, Oslo, Norway, co-hosted with Tanzania.
- **Energy** key for development; driver of prosperity, facilitated achievements in education, health, poverty eradication and other development goals
 - **SE4ALL initial targets for 2020:**
 - Ensure universal access to modern energy services
 - Doubling of the rate of improvement in energy efficiency
 - Doubling of the share of RE in global energy mix
 - UNIDO Director General: there needs to be 2 additional targets: a) reduce by half the number of pre mature deaths due to indoor and outdoor air pollution, b) providing modern energy service to 400,000 primary health care services providers in developing countries.
 - Global friends of SE4all network.

Targeting ENERGY in OWG Meeting/SDGs discussions:

- Flagged in OWG2 (**17-19 April**): conceptualization the SDGs and SDG process. Overarching framework of poverty eradication and sustainable development...and work programme for 2013-2014.
 - LDCs:... population dynamics, access to **energy**, peace and security, strong voice for LDCs.
 - Zambia and Zimbabwe: **sustainable energy, science and technology innovation**
 - Singapore (Cyprus and UAE): jointly address food, **energy** and water as nexus of the OWG.
 - Pacific SIDs (PNG, Nauru, Palau): **access to energy and climate change**
 - Nigeria (ECOWAS): **reliable energy sources**, infrastructure and transport.
 - Cuba: also made intervention with regard to **energy**.
- In the discussions, some delegates were not happy with energy being clustered with climate change, instead preferred to focus the SDGs on the development aspects of energy and access to energy for the poor. So SDG discussion should take place in the context of sustained and inclusive growth.
- OWG3 (22-24 May 2013): thematic issues: a) food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture, desertification, land degradation and drought, and b) water and sanitation

water energy-nexus: world will need 40% more water and 40% more energy by 2030. (Rabi Mohtar, executive director of Qatar environment and energy research institute).

*****Forthcoming up in OWG5*****

OWG5 (25-27 November 2013): sustained and inclusive economic growth, macroeconomic policy questions (including international trade, international financial system and external debt sustainability), infrastructure development and **ENERGY**.

Energy and technology flagged in UNTT think piece on science.

ENERGY and related GOALS (see Dossier on Post 2015 Development Agenda).

- High Level Panel Report: Goal 7: Secure Sustainable Energy
- Global Compact
- SDSN

In packet:

Global thematic Consultation on Energy and the post 2015 development Agenda. Key messages. The World We Want

Also Available

Global thematic consultation on Energy and the post 2015 Development Agenda. Recommendations from Regional Face-to-face and virtual consultations. 9 April 2013. The World We Want. 9 April 2013

G15 Sectoral Issue and the Post 2015 Development Agenda – Health

Positioning of health in the Post 2015 Development Agenda

- Health as a human right.
- Health as a potential stand-alone goal
- Health as a means of measuring success across the whole sustainable development agenda.
- An overarching universal health goal (with MDGs related to health integrated in it)
- Equal access of women and girls to health-care services, including addressing sexual and reproductive health (though the aspect of sexual and reproductive rights seems controversial among Member States), and ensuring universal access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable modern methods of family planning.

TST Brief on Health and SDGs identified four major challenges:

- Major shifts in the age structures of countries;
- Need of all countries to develop capacities and to think creatively and innovatively to deliver health and wellness;
- New diseases; and
- Movement of populations to urban areas.

Principles for defining goals, target and indicators (from consultations):

- Universal relevance;
- Crosscutting attention to equity, equality and non-discrimination;
- Participation, accountability and access to information;
- Country specificity and global relevance;
- Synergies with other goals and with sustainable development goals overall;
- Sustainability; and
- Human rights and gender equality.

Health Goal(s) proposed include:

- High Level Panel, Goal 4 & Goal 5
- SDSN
- Universal health Coverage –health promotion, prevention, treatment and financial risk protection (Rockefeller Foundation). Cited the following G-15 countries as ‘moving towards’ UHC: Indonesia, Mexico, India, Brazil, Egypt.

In the packet

Technical Support Team (TST). Issue Brief: *Health and Sustainable Development*

Also Available:

Health Pos2015 Agenda. Report of the Global thematic Consultation on Health. April 2013

UN TT. Thematic Think Piece. Health in the post 2015 UN Development Agenda, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO. May 2012

UNTT. Thematic Think Piece. Partnerships for development: Perspectives from Global health. OHCHR, UNEP, UNFPA, WHO. January 2013

G15 Sectoral Issue and the Post 2015 Development Agenda – ICT

ICT is not discussed explicitly in Post 2015 on ICT. But it is raised in the broader discussion of NGOs and academics.

In this context, key issues in ICT often cited include:

ICT infrastructure, cybersecurity, enabling environment, e-learning, e-health, e-agriculture, media, accessibility, and ethics

ICT as a challenge

- Technology has the potential to “widen rather than narrow existing inequalities”
- Inequalities in access to ICT networks, education and technological progress [...] remain vast

ICT as an opportunity

- for the creation, transmission and dissemination of information
- For access to knowledge towards inclusive growth and employment creation
- For technological progress towards sustainable development and health improvements
- For greater knowledge sharing to induce changes to achieve food, nutrition and energy security
- For empowering people with information to monitor performance and hold institutions accountable

ICT as one technology among others health, energy, agriculture, etc. technologies

Technology as a change driver: Advancements in technology radically changed how people communicate, organize, learn and participate

Technology as a human right

- Reduction of inequalities includes removing [...] barriers in access to [...] technology

Technology as energy consumer: The transition to low-carbon energy sources would need [...] energy-efficient technologies

Technology as an enabler: Affordable access to technology and knowledge:

- for inclusive social development: empowering people through information and technology
- for environmental sustainability: technology transfer critical to sustainable development
- for inclusive economic development: technology crucial for enabling transformative development

Technology as engagement mechanism: use technology to engage people the world over in taking the next development agenda forward

ENABLER: Affordable access to technology and knowledge

Status of ICT in Post 2015

On the one hand:

- ICT is mentioned but not introduced systematically in the post-2015 agenda
- ICT is used among other technologies and in combination with knowledge and innovation
- There is no mention of ICT or more generally technology measurement
- WSIS process is mentioned by name but not by substance

On the other hand:

- The agenda critically relies on measurement to track development progress
- The agenda heavily relies on the capabilities that require ICT support
- The process leading towards the post-2015 agenda heavily relies on ICT
- Technology and knowledge are treated as one of development enablers

ICT is directly mentioned among three out of four development dimensions

Introduce ICT to the post-2015 development agenda:

- as a standalone development enabler
- in combination with other enablers:

–ICT-enabled social protection system

–ICT-enabled food security system

–ICT-enabled education

–ICT-enabled health, etc.

Institutionalize ICT in the post-2015 development agenda:

- Define basic characteristics of what constitutes a development enabler
- Show under what conditions ICT constitutes a development enabler
- Disseminate ICT across the post-2015 development agenda:

Sources: WSIS and Tomasz Janowski, Center for Electronic Governance, United Nations University IIST

“**Smart climate monitoring:** Expanding access to information on weather, climate and water” recognizes ICT as a tool for gathering and disseminating such information to communities and for producing climate knowledge. It stresses the need to address ICT e-waste and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It recommends viewing ICTs in climate monitoring “as an ‘end to end’ system from observations to predictions.” Participants encouraged the WSIS+10 process to create an action line on climate that, *inter alia*: contributes to the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services; and defines developing country participation in climate ICTs.

read more: <http://climate-l.iisd.org/news/ws-is-forum-recognizes-role-of-icts-in-smart-climate-monitoring-post-2015-agenda/>

G15 Sectoral Issue and the Post 2015 Development Agenda – MIGRATION

Migration is not a stand-alone topic in the Post 2015 discussion. But it is seemingly being advocated for by The Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD under the Swedish chair and with Bangladesh and Switzerland.

Migration it is covered under *Population Dynamics* as one of the thematic priorities: Migration and human mobility.

- ❖ In general migration is seen as a megatrend of the 21st century.
- ❖ Many see removing barriers to human mobility as a step towards continuing the MDG momentum towards social equity.

In the context of SDG, Para 157 of the Outcome document to Rio +20 (the future we want):

We call upon States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants regardless of migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional and bilateral cooperation and a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing that roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability

Migration was covered as a substantive issue once in *population dynamics* under the OWG, which discussed migration in terms of:

- Promoting and protecting migrant rights;
- Combating discrimination and reducing inequality;
- Promoting migration as a catalyst of development, and recognizing migrants as development actors;
- Reducing the structural barriers to mobility;
- Addressing the root causes of migration and reducing brain drain;
- Considering the implications of climate change for migration."

Extract from TWN update June 2013:

An inclusive approach on migration

The G77 and China statement also highlighted the issue of migrant workers and the need to integrate them and their families into society: "The international community should give its due consideration to the linkages between migration and development in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, and in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda."

Ambassador Thomson drew attention to the "urgent need to improve market access to rural farmers to mitigate the flow of rural-urban migration. In this respect, more equitable access

would imply limiting agricultural subsidies by governments in the developed countries that create an imbalanced trading system favouring developed countries. Agricultural policies need to be aligned with country priorities and global realities and take into account marginalized groups, such as smallholder farmers.”

He said that employment objectives need to become central to global actions and mechanisms. “These objectives need the support of international cooperation that supports developing countries through: (1) actions at the level of international economic, financial, trade, technology and social systems, to support and enable developing countries' efforts; and (2) refrain from actions by developed countries that create barriers to developing countries' efforts and progress.”

In the context of population dynamics, the G77 and China highlighted again the link between migration and development. In strong words, the Group argued that a “paradigm shift needs to take place that recognises migration as a catalyst for economic growth as well as knowledge and skills transfer. The stigmatization of marginalized migrant groups in countries other than their own is a threat to national stability and security, and often leads to human rights violations. Ensuring better integration and the respect of human rights should become a priority in our globalizing reality.”

Expressing growing concern over rural-urban migration, the Group said, “Focus on creating better employment and working conditions in rural areas will curb the wave of rural migrants moving to urban areas in hope of finding "better" jobs. Rural migrants easily fall trap to a mostly low-wage, perilous and irregular work cycle with little chance to climb the vocational ladder. What is more, rural work migrants typically settle in the fringes of urban areas that are prone to landslides and flashflood, with little or no access to basic services and infrastructure.”

“Governments need to provide access to basic services, such as water, sanitation and electricity to create sustainable cities with good quality of life for all residents irrespective of their social status or income,” the Group added.... TWN update

Discussions on migration and development is occurring in:

- ✓ The Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) which is a space for dialogue between member states.
- ✓ Interaction between states and the Global Migration Group (formerly the Geneva Migration Group, 2003)
- ✓ There is also the UN high level Dialogue on Migration & Development 2nd HLD October 2013—regional consultation in process
- ✓ UN Special Representative for Migration Peter Sutherland

In the Packet:

UN TT Thematic Think Piece. Migration and human mobility. IOM, UNDESA May 2012

Also available:

UNTT. Thematic think Piece. Global Partnerships in the area of population and migration. IOM, UN DESA, UNFPA.

Population Dynamics in the Post 2015 Development Agenda, Report of the Global Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics. April 28, 2013. www.worldwewant2015.org

G15 Sectoral Issue and the Post 2015 Development Agenda – IPRs

The issue of IPRs was raised in the UNTT thematic think piece on *Science, technology and innovation and intellectual property rights: the vision for development*. Paper prepared by IAEA, ITU, UNESCO, UNOOSA and WIPO

The brief does not problematize the issue of IPR and its likely constraints and challenges for development. Some key points made:

- IP system as part of the solution to the need to strengthen national innovation capacity. Use IP system for the protection and promotion of domestic creations, innovations and inventions and for attracting FDI and, ‘hence contributing to the transfer of technology, and to support the development of the national scientific and technological infrastructure.’ p. 5
- Flags need to improve access to technologies, in particular ICTs p.6
- IP system and in particular the patent system, can play a pivotal role in relation to health-related development objectives as incentive for innovation in the pharmaceutical field and as a policy tool for technological diffusion and access to essential drugs.... Poorly structured IP system, with an in appropriate balance between innovation and access, can hamper the ability of governments to deliver one of their primary development objectives, safeguarding the health of their population. p.7

Available:

UNTT thematic think piece on *Science, technology and innovation and intellectual property rights: the vision for development*