



Global Thematic Consultation on Governance and the Post-2015 Development Framework

Briefing for United Nations Member States,

**5 February 2014, 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ New York**

Background

In coordination with the United Nations Development Group, UNDP in 2012 launched a major initiative designed to inform the discussions around priorities for the Post-2015 agenda with the perspectives from people all over the world, including poor and marginalized groups. The initiative has facilitated 88 national dialogues, 11 global thematic consultations, a virtual conversations platform and an online survey.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) co-facilitated the global thematic consultation on governance and the post-2015 development framework, with the support of the Government of Germany.

The governance consultation aimed to provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss governance and accountability bottlenecks in the context of the MDGs; and to assess how these gaps can be addressed in a new global development framework. It was designed to ensure the participation of grassroots stakeholders and other constituencies who may not ordinarily have access to intergovernmental processes including marginalized groups and minorities. The consultation benefited from the contributions from a wide range of stakeholders across regions and constituencies, including from government, grassroots to international civil society, national human rights institutions, parliamentarians, representatives of the media and the private sector, indigenous peoples, slum dwellers, persons with disabilities, youth groups and gender communities.

From October 2012 through March 2013, the Governance consultation organized a series of regional dialogues in Africa, Arab States, Asia and Latin America, an expert meeting on measurements and accountability, e-discussions and a global event hosted by the Pan-African Parliament. A final report has been produced with synthesizes the rich discussions and key messages emanating from these consultations.

The consultation affirmed the multidimensional nature of governance, which is characterized as a critical means for achieving development goals, a key enabler for reducing inequalities but importantly also as an end in itself, enabling people to exercise their rights. It further confirmed that governance and human rights are indeed measurable and called for a strong accountability and monitoring framework for implementing the Post-2015 agenda.

It is worth noting the convergence between the outcomes of the Governance consultation and the report of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, both calling for inclusive, participatory, effective and accountable governance to be at the center of a transformative development agenda, anchored in universal human rights principles. The High-level Panel considered peace and good governance as “core elements of well-being, not optional extras”, and proposed a specific goal on good governance and effective institutions. In his report on the MDGs and Post-2015, A Life of Dignity for All, the United Nations Secretary-General called for building peace and effective governance based on the rule of law and sound institutions in the new development agenda. At the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the President of the General Assembly called for promoting "peace and security, democratic governance, the rule of law, gender equality and human rights for all" in the outcome document of his Special Event on the MDGs.

Objective of the briefing to member states

The purpose of the briefing will be to present the outcomes of governance consultation to United Nations member states and observers, through their representatives at the UN Headquarters in New York, and to inform the intergovernmental processes on Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2015 development agenda, and the role of governance in that debate.

Format

The briefing will last 1 hour 15 minutes and will consist of opening remarks by representatives of the Permanent Missions of Germany and South Africa, followed by panel presentations by representatives of UNDP and OHCHR, and a keynote address by a civil society representative. A Questions and Answers session with the audience will conclude the briefing.

Agenda

Moderator: Mrs. Radhika Balakrishnan, Executive Director, Center for Women's Global Leadership, Rutgers University

Welcome Address

- H.E. Mr. Hans Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations
- H.E. Mr. Jeremiah Nyamane Kingsley Mamabolo, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations

Post-2015 Governance Thematic Consultation: Process and Outcomes

- Mr. Olav Kjørven, Special Advisor to the UNDP Administrator on the Post-2015 Development Agenda
- Mr. Craig Mokhiber, Chief, Development and Economic and Social Issues, OHCHR

Keynote address

- Mr. Jeffery Huffines, CIVICUS

Q&A