

**Recommendations and Conclusions of the 11th Meeting of
National Recruitment Services and UN Organizations
on the JPO Programmes,
25-27 April 2017, Bonn**

1) JPO Programmes and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Meeting acknowledges the importance of the Programmes as an instrument for Organizations and participating countries to support the global plan of action enshrined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed priority areas.

Taking note of the role of the Programmes in developing young talents as future leaders in the key areas of the Agenda at both national and international level, the Meeting invites donor countries and UN Organizations to continue the efforts in facilitating the placement of JPOs in areas linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed priority areas.

The Meeting invites UN Organizations to consider including reference to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed priority areas in JPO Terms of References when relevant.

2) Updating the legislative mandate of the Programmes

The Meeting takes note of the General Assembly recommendation on updating the legislative mandate of the Programmes. Acknowledging the potential future impact that a change of the mandate can have on the JPO Programmes, the Meeting recommends that any proposals ensure that the revised mandate reflects the multidimensional nature of the 2030 Agenda and other internationally agreed priority areas.

3) Building Partnerships

The Meeting takes note of the suggestion to intensify partnerships between participating partner countries in order to, among others, share knowledge, experiences and best practices in all aspects of the JPO Programmes. Each UN Organization is invited to facilitate such partnerships.

4) Harmonization of Elements in the Cost Estimates

The Meeting acknowledges the efforts to harmonize practices among the UN Organizations in connection with the elements included in the cost estimates and invites them to continue these efforts, while sharing relevant aspects with the JPO Programmes network.

5) Streamlining administration of the Duty Travel and Training Allowance (DTTA)

The Meeting takes note with interest of the pilot project developed by UNDP in order to streamline the administration of the Training budget (DTTA) through a lump sum payment, and invites UNDP to share experience with other UN Organization for their possible adoption.

6) Diversity and Inclusiveness

In light of the interest to make the JPO Programmes as diverse as possible and to increase its inclusiveness, the Meeting suggests to continue efforts to encourage differently-abled candidates

to participate in the Programmes and to ensure that receiving offices are sensitized to cater to their needs.

The Meeting also encourages UN Organizations and partner countries to develop and exchange ideas and possible options on the topic of diversity and inclusiveness, using the existing LinkedIn platform, and to report on the progress of these initiatives in the next meeting.

7) Training and Career Support

The Meeting acknowledges the importance of training and career support for JPOs at different stages of deployment and invites all partner countries and UN Organizations to exchange experiences, explore the development of joint training and career support initiatives, and leverage existing resources. The Meeting encourages the establishment of a group of interested parties to explore concrete areas of collaboration and requests UNSSC to facilitate such discussions.

The Meeting takes note of the pilot programme initiated by Sweden, and invites the Swedish representatives to share details of this Programme in the LinkedIn group. The Meeting also invites all other participants to avail of the LinkedIn group to share other ideas and initiatives in the context of training and career support.

8) Evaluation of the Programmes

The Meeting highly appreciates the presentation of the results of the overall assessment of the JPO Programmes conducted by UNDP on behalf of the Assessment Task Force, and the presentation of national evaluations presented by Italy and Switzerland. The Meeting recommends identifying at the 12th Meeting the UN Organizations/partner countries that will conduct the next overall assessment of the JPO Programmes with results to be presented at the 13th Meeting.

9) Developing indicators for the JPO Programmes

The Meeting takes note of the proposals to identify indicators to monitor the quality and the success of the JPO Programmes.

Recalling the recommendation issued in The Hague in 2015 and taking into account any possible changes to the mandate of the Programme approved by the General Assembly, the Meeting invites UNDP and Italy to coordinate with all stakeholders and to draft a proposal of additional indicators other than retention rate in International Organizations to be presented at the 12th Meeting.

10) Broadening the geographical representation and diversity of the JPO Programmes

The Meeting recognizes that broadening the geographical representation and diversity of JPOs strengthens the impact and sustainability of the Programmes.

Recalling recommendations previously issued since 1972 on the sponsorship of developing country candidates, and building on the experience of countries that are currently doing so, the Meeting encourages all donors to explore different options such as extending the scope of their own JPO Programmes beyond their own nationals by including candidates from non-participating countries and in particular from developing countries. The Meeting also encourages partner countries to contribute to the interagency Voluntary Trust Fund for the sponsorship of Developing Country Candidates.

11) Planning for the next meeting in 2019

Expressing deep appreciation to the UN JPO Programme/ DESA for its excellent organizational efforts and its relevant substantive contribution to the discussions, the participants request UN JPO Programme/DESA to begin planning for the next meeting, which is going to be hosted by Italy in 2019.

Conclusion:

Acknowledgment to the host country

The participants expressed their deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for its warm welcome to Bonn and its generous and excellent logistical arrangements which facilitated the fruitful discussions and results of the deliberations.