

**High Level Event of the General Assembly
“Contributions of Human Rights and the Rule of Law
in the post-2015 Development Agenda”**

9 to 10 June 2014

Background

In the 2012 Declaration of the High-Level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, world leaders acknowledged “that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, all of which in turn reinforce the rule of law.” They further stated that “for this reason we are convinced that this interrelationship should be considered in the post-2015 international development agenda.”

In addition the 2010 review of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), entitled “Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals”, identified a number of factors, related to the rule of law and the observance of human rights which, together with political will at all levels, had contributed to reaching success in the implementation of the MDGs.

More recently, in the Outcome document of the Special Event to follow-up on efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals held on September 25th, leaders have underlined the need for a coherent approach to the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda that integrates in a balanced manner the three dimensions of sustainable development. This approach should also promote peace and security, democratic governance, the rule of law, gender equality and human rights for all.

As a complement to the work of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and building upon the aforementioned consensually agreed political outcomes, the President of the General Assembly will convene a high-level event to further address the contributions of human rights and the rule of law in the post-2015 development agenda.

Objective

The high-level event will examine how human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law at the national and international levels, can support an inclusive, people centered development agenda.

To this end, the event will provide an opportunity for participants to:

1. Exchange experiences and lessons learned regarding the treatment of human rights and the rule of law in a development context including for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

2. Identify gaps and challenges in this regard that will require further attention and support in a post 2015 development agenda;
3. Identify resources and capacities necessary to foster a universal approach promoting freedom from want and freedom from fear;

Format and Outcome

The high-level event will take place 9 to 10 June 2014 in New York. In accordance with the letter of the President of the General Assembly to Member States dated on December 5th, 2013, it will consist of an opening plenary, interactive, multi-stakeholder panel discussions and a closing plenary. A President's summary will be issued at its conclusion and will subsequently be made available to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing for their consideration, as applicable.

Participants

Member States are invited to participate at the ministerial level and to express to the President of the General Assembly their interest in co-chairing an interactive panel discussion.

Representatives of United Nations agencies and of civil society, major groups and other relevant stakeholders will also be invited to attend.

Invitations to this high-level event, as well as the program and the details on the issues to be addressed during the plenary and the panel discussions will be sent at a later stage.