

Brief (October 2011)

Preparations for 2012 quadrennial comprehensive policy review of the General Assembly of UN operational activities for development

The QCPR is the mechanism through which the General Assembly assesses the effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact of UN operational activities for development and establishes system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the UN system in response to the evolving international development cooperation environment.

QCPR is first and foremost a policy evaluation.....

The 2012 QCPR will assess the implementation of policies established in GA resolutions 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review and 64/289 on system-wide coherence and ECOSOC resolution 2011/7, which provides guidance to the Secretary-General on analytical preparations for the 2012 QCPR.

.....but also a mechanism to look to the future.....

The QCPR process also provides an important opportunity to Member States to engage in a dialogue on how to adapt UN operational activities to the changing global development cooperation context.

.....using effective evaluative methods.....

The SG facilitates the QCPR process by providing Member States with impartial, balanced and forward-looking analysis on the implementation of existing policies through several methods: firstly, survey of programme countries on UN operational activities for development (see separate one-pager), secondly, a series of analytical studies on selected issues, thirdly, a desk review of key documents in all substantive areas, and, fourthly, country visits to programme countries.

.....and underpinned by strong analysis.....

Analytical preparations for the 2012 QCPR will particularly focus on policy issues felt to require special attention by Member States.

Further broadening and strengthening of analysis on funding will be an important part of the 2012 QCPR preparations, including providing more disaggregated reporting on issues such as predictability of funding flows, breakdown of non-core funding by place of mobilization and cost recovery of non-core contributions to the UN development system.

The SG will also undertake in-depth analytical work in a number of other areas such as: UNDAF process, Resident Coordinator system, harmonization of business practices, results-based strategic planning and management, gender equality and women's

empowerment, as well as examining emerging policy issues likely to impact the work of the UN development system in the 2013-2016 QCPR cycle. The analytical preparations will result in two reports of the SG on funding and TCPR implementation respectively.

Other key analytical inputs to the 2012 QCPR will be the report of the independent evaluation of 'delivering-as-one' and a report commissioned by the SG on a comprehensive review of the existing institutional framework for system-wide evaluation of UN operational activities for development.

....and thorough stakeholder consultations

Stakeholder consultations will be an integral part of the 2012 QCPR process, beginning in October 2011 with briefings to Member States and entities of the UN development system on the overall approach of the SG to the analytical preparations. In December, a workshop, open to all Member States will also examine the key findings and recommendations of the independent review of the existing institutional framework for system-wide evaluation.

A series of dialogues will be held with Member States, UN entities, UN inter-agency bodies, UN Resident Coordinators and country teams in the February to March 2012 period on the findings and recommendations of different analytical studies as well as the survey of programme countries. Furthermore, a multi-stakeholder workshop on the opportunities and challenges facing UN operational activities in the broader international development cooperation environment is planned in April 2012.

Prepared by:

Kristinn Sv. Helgason and HuanYu Liu

For further information, please contact:

Navid Hanif, Acting Director, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Rm. DC1-1428, New York, NY
10017, USA, Tel: +1 212 963 1815 Fax: +1 212 963 1712

Email: hanif@un.org

Website: <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/dcpb>