



**United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD)
In collaboration with the Government of Ghana and UNDP Ghana**

**Expert Group Meeting
on
“Practical Strategies to Promote Social Integration:
Lessons learned from existing policies and practices”**

**17 - 19 November 2009
Accra, Ghana**

Annotated Agenda

Tuesday, 17 November 2009

8:30-9:00 **Registration**

9:00-9:30 **Opening session**

Welcome and Opening Remarks:

Hon. Stephen Amoanor-Kwao, Minister of Employment and Social Welfare, Government of Ghana

Mr. Daouda Toure, United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Ghana

Mr. Jean-Pierre Gonnot, Acting Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

9:30-10:00 **Introductory Session: Objectives and expected outcomes of the meeting and introductions of the participants**

10:00-10:15 **Break**

10:15-12:15

Session I: Existing policies and practices conducive to social integration (Part I): Policies toward more equitable distribution, social protection, and policies to promote civic participation (pro-poor policies, conditional cash transfer, social floor, more coordinated economic and social policies, taxation, etc.)

Moderator: **Mr. Ebrahim Rasool**, Advisor to the Minister in the Presidency, South Africa

Introductory Remarks:

Government of Ghana (tbc)

Mr. Simone Cecchini, Senior Officer, Social Development Division, Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC)

Dr. Shiva Sharma, Executive Director, National Labour Academy, Nepal

Roundtable discussion: Lessons learned from their challenges and opportunities

Guiding questions:

- Among the policies that have been introduced to achieve more equitable distribution, social protection and to promote civic participation, what types of policies or combination of policies have proven most effective at the national and local levels?
- What are the necessary elements or conditions that enabled these policy interventions to be successful and sustainable?
- What are the foci of these interventions, and what additional foci may serve to strengthen similar approaches?
- Bearing in mind that social integration and inclusion are multidimensional, what are trade-offs and/or implementation constraints policy makers should consider?
- What lessons have we learned?

12:30-14:00

Lunch Break

14:00-15:30

Session II: Existing policies and practices conducive to social integration (Part II): Targeted vs. mainstreaming approaches to address the needs and concerns of social groups (youth, older persons, persons with disabilities indigenous peoples, women, children, people living with HIV/AIDS, migrants, etc.)

Moderator: **Dr. Nana Apt**, Professor of Sociology and Dean of Academic Affairs, Ashesi University, Ghana

Introductory Remarks:

Mr. Ha Viet Quan, Deputy Director, P135-2 Coordination Office, the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs, Viet Nam

Mr. Nurdin Satarov, HelpAge International, Kyrgyzstan
Mr. Ebenezer Adjetsey-Sorsey, Executive Director, HelpAge Ghana

Ms. Annie Namala, Director, Centre for Programming Inclusion and Equity, India

Roundtable discussion: Lessons learned from their challenges and opportunities

Guiding questions:

- What are the benefits and setbacks of anti-discriminatory policies, including temporary/special measures?
- How to create a synergy between policies pertinent to certain social groups and more broad-based approaches, such as rights-based approach?

15:30-15:45

Break

15:45-17:30

Session III: Discussions on Session I & II (*This session is to revisit and deepen the discussions.*)

Moderator: **Dr. Katja Hujo**, Research coordinator of UNRISD Social Policy and Development Programme

17:30-18:00

Wrap-up by the Rapporteur of day one

Wednesday, 18 November 2009

9:00-10:30

Session IV: National mechanisms to implement policies, strategies, and practices geared towards social integration and inclusion: What have worked – lessons learned from good practices.

Moderator: **Ms. Annie Namala**, Director, Centre for Programming Inclusion and Equity, India

Introductory Remarks:

Ms. Sadequa Rahim, Policy Officer, Social Welfare Division, African Union

Mr. Hamilton Lashley, Advisor to the Government of Barbados on Social Policy

Roundtable discussion: Lessons learned from their challenges and opportunities

Guiding question:

- What types of institutional mechanisms (focal points, social integration unit, etc.) are more likely to effectively mainstream social integration/inclusion objectives into existing policies and programmes?
- How to coordinate formulation, implementation and monitoring of sectoral policies to promote social integration and inclusion?
- Are there any other ways to ensure the effective implementation of inclusive policies, strategies and practices?

10:30-10:45

Break

10:45-12:30

Session V: Translating social integration/inclusion policies into practice: Inclusive and participatory planning as a potential tool

Moderator: **Dr. Paul Stubbs**, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Economics, Croatia

Introductory Remarks:

Ms. Meiry Andrea Borges David, Special Advisor to the Minister of Social Mobilization, Brazil

Dr. Donovan Storey, Lecturer in Development Planning, University of Queensland, Australia

Roundtable discussion: Lessons learned from their challenges and opportunities

Guiding question:

- How the national and sectoral policy, planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes become more inclusive by mainstreaming the needs and concerns of all, in particular those who are traditionally marginalized and/or disadvantaged?
- How can broad-based multi-stakeholder participation be undertaken in a practical and effective manner in the design and implementation of the national development agenda?
- How can monitoring and evaluation move beyond the current framework to capture and analyze the differentiated impacts of the programmes and projects to various populations?

12:30-14:00

Lunch break

14:00-15:30

Session VI: Building capacity to promote social integration and inclusion: What needs to be done for social integration/inclusion policies and strategies to take effect on the grounds? (What is lacking? In which area(s) should we focus?)

Moderator: Mr. Essam Ali, Independent Research Consultant

Introductory Remarks:

Dr. Paul Stubbs, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Economics, Croatia

Mr. Ebrahim Rasool, Advisor to the Minister in the Presidency, South Africa

Ms. Dorah Semkwiji, Senior Researcher, Economic and Social Research Foundation, United Republic of Tanzania

Roundtable discussion: Lessons learned from their challenges and opportunities

Guiding Questions

- What impedes the effective implementation of inclusive policies, and how to address these obstacles?
- What are the priority areas where national capacity needs to be strengthened?
- How to strengthen social institutions that promote social integration/inclusion?
- How to strengthen the capacities of national and local government to promote inclusive and participatory processes?
- What are the tools needed to effectively advocate and raise awareness on the promotion of social integration and inclusion (campaign, mass media, set objectives, etc.)?
- How to strengthen national capacity in the area of research and systemic analysis to enable evidence-based policy formulation?

15:30-15:45

Break

15:45-17:30

Session VII: Discussions on Session IV, V and VI (*This session is to revisit and deepen the discussions.*)

Moderator: Dr. Katja Hujo, Research coordinator of UNRISD Social Policy and Development Programme

17:30-18:00

Wrap-up by the Rapporteur of day two

Thursday, 19 November, 2009

9:00-10:30

Session VIII: Discussion in the working groups

Topics for discussion in the groups

- Policies and practices conducive to social integration

- National mechanisms to implement policies, strategies, and practices geared towards social integration and inclusion:
- Areas for capacity building at national, regional and international levels (i.e., guidelines, compilation of good practices, information sharing, creating a knowledge base, training, etc.)

Preparation of draft recommendations

Working group A

Working group B

10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:30	Preparation of draft recommendations
12:30-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:30	Session IX: Presentation of the Working Groups by the Rapporteurs
	Discussion
15:30-15:45	Break
15:45-16:45	Finalization of draft recommendations
16:45-17:00	Adoption of recommendations by experts
17:00 -17:30	Concluding remarks and closing
17:45	Departure