

Implementing the New Development Framework in Countries Affected by Conflict and Fragility

A side Event Organized by the International Dialogue for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding

70th Session of the UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

28 September 2015, 18:30 to 20:00 CR

7, UN Headquarters, New York

Rationale

The number of people living in extreme poverty in countries affected by conflict and fragility is increasing. Many countries run the risk of relapsing into conflict. Persistent violence and conflict threatens the prospect of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda, to be held from 25 to 27 September 2015 in New York, is the culmination of many years of discussions and learning about how the international community can better deliver peace and prosperity for all in an effort to leave no one behind.

The need to build resilient countries as the foundation for sustainable peace must be considered when outlining how the new development framework, the SDGs, and in particular SDG 16 to build peaceful and inclusive societies, should be implemented. Yet, progress on SDG 16 alone, will not be enough to ensure that the millions of people living in poverty across countries affected by conflict and fragility are able to make progress across the range of SDGs. How the concerns of countries affected by conflict and fragility are factored into the implementation of all the SDGs is crucial.

In 2011, the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (the International Dialogue) crafted the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile and Conflict Affected Countries. It was endorsed by over 40 countries and organisations, including the UN Development Group, and piloted in more than 7 countries.¹ The New Deal Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals (PSGs) are clearly reflected in several of the SDGs and most prominently in SDG 16.

Purpose

To contribute to the implementation of the SDGs, and SDG 16 in particular, the International Dialogue wants to share some of the lessons learned from the implementation of peace- and statebuilding efforts under the New Deal framework with a broad range of stakeholders.

It will provide an opportunity to share experiences and reflect on what will be required to support the implementation of the SDGs in countries affected by conflict and fragility and what needs to be done collectively to ensure people living in countries affected by conflict and fragility are 'not left behind'.

¹ At the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, 2011, in Busan, where the New Deal was endorsed, the Secretary General of the United Nations, **Ban Ki-moon**, said: "This New Deal is an opportunity to focus much-needed attention on peacebuilding and statebuilding. I urge you all to pursue this important work." A number of UN agencies, including the UN Peacebuilding Support Office, UNDP and the International Labour Organisation, have endorsed the New Deal. For more information about the New Deal and the International Dialogue please visit <http://www.pbsbdialogue.org>. You can learn more about the g7+ and their work by visiting <http://www.g7plus.org>.

Objectives

1. To identify a set of commitments needed for addressing possible challenges to implementation of the SDGs in countries affected by conflict and fragility.
2. To galvanize broad based political support for countries affected by conflict and fragility in order for them to be able to achieve progress on all SDGs.

Expected Outputs

An International Dialogue co-Chairs' summary identifying challenges and setting out a possible agenda for action on conflict and fragility for 2016 and beyond.

Participants

The event will reach out to stakeholders within and beyond the International Dialogue community. It will bring together experts, the governments of countries affected by conflict and fragility, their development partners, UN member states, multilateral agencies, civil society organisations, South-South partners, and the private sector. The discussions will be kicked off by an introduction by an independent expert followed by interventions from a panel discussion and comments from the floor.

Suggested Panellists:

- **Dr. Rui Maria de Araujo**, Prime Minister of Timor-Leste
- **Kaifala Marah**, Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Sierra Leone, co-Chair of the International Dialogue, and Chair of the g7+ group.
- **Isabella Lövin**, Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden, and co-Chair of the International Dialogue
- **Helen Clark**, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

□ **High Level Representative from G77 e.g. China, Brazil (tbc)** □

Representative from **Civil Society (tbc)**

