



ECOSOC Dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the UN development system in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Special Briefing

DCF Brussels High-level Symposium

Brussels, 6 April 2016

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

PROGRAMME

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the General Assembly in September 2015 is a landmark event in international cooperation for development. This historic agenda brings together the goal of poverty eradication with objectives concerning the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development. The effective implementation of this universal agenda will require the increasingly diverse range of stakeholders at all levels to join forces, including in the area of development cooperation.

Development cooperation takes many forms – financial resources, capacity building, technology development and transfer, policy advice, and multi-stakeholder partnerships. All will be vital, given the great scale and scope of support needed to achieve the new agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals. Alignment of actions and novel ways of working together will be key to ensure that all resources contribute to the different aspects of a broader and more ambitious agenda, driven by a true sense of partnership and fundamental commitment to leave no-one behind.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the evolving development cooperation have profound implications for the United Nations development system, the top recipient of multilateral aid. The UN development system needs to make itself a better fit for supporting countries in achieving the SDGs. This would involve a critical review and adaptation of its strategic orientation and operations against the 2030 Agenda, taking into consideration the emerging role and approach of development cooperation in different contexts.

In response to this changing development landscape, and in the context of the 2030 Agenda, the Economic and Social Council, in resolution 2014/14, decided to convene a transparent and inclusive dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the UN development system. The Dialogue is focused in particular on the interlinkages between the alignment of functions, funding practices, governance structures, organizational arrangements, capacity and impact, and partnership approaches. It aims to bring forward concrete ideas and options to strengthen the UN development system in response to the requirements of the 2030 Agenda.

In support of this objective, the ECOSOC Bureau has established an Independent Team of Advisers to assist Member States during the second phase of the Council's Dialogue in analysing, concretizing and prioritizing options for consideration by the Bureau and Member States.

In this special briefing during the DCF Belgium High-level Symposium, the President of ECOSOC will present the objectives and expectations for the ECOSOC Dialogue, followed by comments from Mr. Michael O'Neill, Assistant Secretary-General, & Assistant Administrator, Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP. Time is also reserved for interactive discussion among participants.

2.00 – 2.05 p.m.

Opening of the meeting

Moderator

Mr. Navid Hanif, Director, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

2.05 – 2.15 p.m.

Presentation

H.E. Mr. Oh Joon, President of the Economic and Social Council

2.15 – 2.20 p.m.

Comment

Mr. Michael O'Neill, Assistant Secretary-General & Assistant Administrator, Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP

2:20 – 2:50 p.m.

Interactive discussion

2:50 – 3:00 p.m.

Closing remarks

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