



**Economic and Social Council
Operational Activities for Development Segment
ECOSOC Chamber
New York, 27 February to 1 March 2018**

***Draft Programme
Repositioning the United Nations development system
to best deliver for people and planet***

The 2018 ECOSOC Segment on Operational Activities for Development will serve as a key platform for Member States and other stakeholders to discuss the proposals of the Secretary-General to reposition the UN development system to respond to the requirements of the 2030 Agenda. The Segment will also provide an opportunity for Member States and stakeholders to take stock of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the UN system.

**Day 1 - Tuesday 27 February
*Perspectives from the field and stakeholders***

Morning Session

10:00 – 10:30am

Opening

- H. E. Mr. Marc Pecsteen de Buytswerve, Vice-President, ECOSOC
- H.E. Mr. Dian Triansyah Djani, Vice President, UN General Assembly, Permanent Representative of Indonesia

Keynote speaker

- Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary General, United Nations
“Repositioning the UN development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: our promise for dignity, prosperity and peace on a healthy planet”

10:30am

Session I

Supporting UNCTs for the 2030 Agenda

This session will discuss the adjustments necessary to ensure an effective and tailored response to context-specific needs, including enhanced support to countries for leveraging financing, partnerships and technologies. The session will be in two parts, with the first, targeting the Secretary-General’s proposal for a new generation of UN Country Teams, and the second, his

proposal for a reinvigorated Resident Coordinators' system to better support needs in the field. It will include representatives from different regions and different settings. Executive Heads of UN development system entities may participate in the discussion.

The session will include Q&As with Member States.

10:30 – 1:00pm

Session I, Part A:

Perspectives from the field: Building a new generation of UN Country Teams

Panellists:

- Mr. Stephen O'Malley, UN Resident Coordinator, Barbados
- Ms. Pratibha Mehta, UN Resident Coordinator, Tajikistan
- Ms. Ulrika Richardson, UN Resident Coordinator, Cabo Verde

Possible discussion questions :

- What alignments are needed at country level and other levels to deliver on the core function of support for financing of the 2030 agenda, and stronger partnerships with international financial institutions and broader financial institutions? What accelerators can be deployed?
- How will the proposed new generation of UNCTs and reinvigorated RC system better position the UN development system for improved and more sustainable results and impact on the ground?
- What are the key issues that determine a differentiated approach to country presence and leadership in LLDCs, LDCs, SIDS and MICs?

Afternoon Session

3:00 – 5:00pm

Session I, Part B

In support of the field: A reinvigorated impartial and independent Resident Coordinator system

Keynote Speaker

- Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

Panellists:

- Mr. Mourad Wahba, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States, UNDP
- Mr. John Ging, Director, Division for Operations and Advocacy, UN OCHA
- Ms. Marta Ruedas, UN Resident Coordinator, Sudan
- Ms. Maria del Carmen Sacasa, UN Resident Coordinator, Peru

Possible discussion questions :

- What further measures would better enable RCs to work across the development-humanitarian-peacebuilding continuum?
- How will the funding and reporting lines impact the work under the proposed new arrangements?

5:00 – 6:00pm

Session II

Strengthening partnerships and stakeholder engagement.

This session will explore how at country-level, empowered RCs, supported by a new generation of UNCTs, could best serve as a one-stop shop for all external partners, including International Financial Institutions, businesses, civil society and other stakeholders; and how can the UN Office for Partnerships be firmly established as the UN's global gateway for partnerships.

The session will include Q&As with Member States.

Panellists:

- Mr. Gavin Power, Deputy Director, UN Global Compact
- Ms. Laurie Manderino, Associate Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- Mr. Andrew Wilson, International Chamber of Commerce, Permanent Observer to the United Nations
- Ms. Barbara Adams, Senior Policy Advisor, Global Policy Forum

Possible discussion questions:

- What are key elements that need to be taken into account by the process activated by the Secretary-General within the UNDG, with the support of DESA & the Global Compact, to agree on a system-wide approach to partnership, also with new donors and actors, with a focus at the country level RC Offices as hubs?
- How can the UNDS partnership with the World Bank and other IFIs be further developed towards for a refreshed system-wide compact around high-impact actions in support of the SDGs?
- Are there additional measures that need to be considered by the UNDG to strengthen system-wide integrity, due diligence and risk management, beyond those reflected in the Secretary-General's report, namely acceptance of the 10 principles of the Global Compact as a common partnership standard for private sector entities, common due diligence criteria, the creation of an Integrity Task Force comprising senior UN leadership to manage risks of UN-business engagement and foster a pool of "partner ready" companies.

Day 2 – Wednesday 28 February

Dialogue with UN Executive Heads

Morning Session

10:00am – 10:15am **Session III**

Key messages of the Secretary-General's 2018 report on progress in the implementation of the QCPR of operational activities for development of the UN system

- Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under Secretary-General, UN DESA

10:15am – 1:00pm **Dialogue with Executive Heads of UN development system: *Planning and delivering collective results***

In response to Member States' call for a UN development system that is "more strategic, accountable, transparent, collaborative, efficient, effective and results-oriented", this session will focus on progress made by individual UNDS entities to respond to the 2016 QPCR mandates; actions taken and measures planned to align their strategic plans and work with the QPCR and the Secretary-General's vision for a repositioned UNDS; and elaborate on how the proposed system-wide strategic document would serve as a guiding framework and roadmap to accelerate alignment of functions and capacities of the UNDS as a whole at country, regional and global levels.

The session will include Q&As with Member States.

Panellists:

- ☑ Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, UNDP
- ☑ Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF
- ☑ Ms. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, UNFPA
- ☑ Mr. David Beasley, Executive Director, WFP (via VTC)
- ☑ Mr. Guy Ryder, Director General, ILO (via VTC)
- ☑ Ms. Alicia Barcena, Coordinator, UN Regional Economic Commissions
- ☑ Mr. Yannick Glemarec, Deputy Executive Director, UN Women

Possible discussion questions :

- How will the proposed SWSD serve as a guiding framework to accelerate alignment of functions and capacities of the UNDS as a whole with 2030 Agenda implementation? What guidance has been provided to UNCTs for that end at entity-level? How will it serve as an accountability instrument at different levels?
- What measures have been put in place in 2017 in response to QPCR mandates needing no further decisions? How will strategic planning processes be adjusted to achieve better alignment of functions and capacities at entity and system-wide levels in support of 2030 Agenda implementation at the country level?
- What innovative forms of support to programme countries, including through better use of new communication technologies and profile changes are needed to respond in a coherent and integrated manner to country priorities?
- What needs to change in the profile of teams at country, regional and global levels to enable delivering strategically on capacity development needs, including how to leverage the kind of financing and partnerships needed for the 2030 Agenda?

Afternoon Session

3:00 – 4:30pm

Session IV

Revitalizing the UN Development System's funding architecture in support of the 2030 Agenda implementation: Towards a Compact

A successful repositioning of the UNDS is predicated on vast improvements in the predictability, balance and quality of its funding base. This, in turn, will require far-reaching measures by the system to strengthen transparency, accountability and collective results based on pooled resources.

The session will include Q&As with Member States.

Keynote speaker

- ☑ Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

Panellists:

- ☑ Mr. Ghulam Asmal, Director of NEPAD and Partnerships, Department of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa
- ☑ Mr. Nojibur Rahman, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Bangladesh
- ☑ Mr. Efraim Gomez, Deputy Director General, UN Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Possible discussion questions:

- Are there any specific measures by the UN development system entities that would incentivize Member States to reverse the trends of decrease in the share of core resources and improve the quality of earmarked non-core funding in general?
- What are essential elements to reach the target of doubling contributions to inter-agency pooled funds over the next 5 years?
- What role should a more fit-for-purpose UNDS play in relation to the overall efforts to finance the SDGs, including supporting governments to leverage partnerships and financing from private and other sources of funding?

4:30-6:00pm

General Debate

Day 3 – Thursday 1 March
Oversight and accountability

Morning Session

10:00 - 11:30am

Session V

Strengthening global-level accountability, transparency and oversight of the UN development system

This session will discuss measures to strengthen transparency and accountability, including through independent system-wide evaluation, and consider the Secretary-General's proposals to further enable system-wide oversight and guidance, in particular through a Joint Board and a renewed ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development segment.

The session will include Q&As with Member States.

Panellists:

- ☑ H.E. Mr. Jagdish D. Koonjul, President of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS and Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations
- ☑ H.E. Mr. Tore Hattrem, President of the Executive Board of UNICEF and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations
- ☑ Mr. Amir Abdulla, Deputy Executive Director, WFP (via VTC)

Possible discussion questions:

- Do the measures already put in place and proposed by the Secretary-General address current deficits around transparency and accountability?
- What are the key issues that Member States would like to address through strengthened intergovernmental guidance and oversight of the UN development system?
- How can the proposed sessions of the ECOSOC OAS support Member States in addressing these issues through the newly proposed space for accountability, Executive Board guidance, regional review and nexus discussions?
- How can a Joint Board of entities better impact the system-wide approach of the UN development system?

11:30 am – 1:00pm General Debate

Afternoon Session

3:00 – 5:30pm General Debate

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Closing

- Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General
- H. E. Mr. Marc Pecsteen de Buytswerve, Vice-President for Operational Activities for Development, ECOSOC

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Side Events

Financing the UN Development System: why funding modalities are integral to reform

Organizers: Governments of Colombia and Norway

Day and time: Tuesday 27 February 2018, 1:15 – 2:45pm

Location: UN Secretariat, Conference Room 11-

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