Dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the UN development system

Retreat 2
Framing the priorities of the UN development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda

Greentree Foundation, Manhasset, New York
26-27 February 2016

Programme

Day 1, Friday, 26 February

Afternoon

1:15 p.m. Departure from NY
2:15 p.m. Check-in and refreshments
2:30 p.m. Arrival of participants, check-in and refreshments
3:00 – 3:05 p.m. Welcome
Ms. Bettina Luise Rürup, Executive Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) New York Office
3:05 – 3:15 p.m. Opening remarks
- H.E. Mr. Oh Joon, President of the Economic and Social Council
- H.E. Mr. Hector Alejandro Palma Cerna, Vice-President of ECOSOC
3:15 – 3:35 p.m. Keynote address
Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations (address delivered on the Deputy Secretary-General’s behalf by Under-Secretary-General Wu Hongbo)
3:35 – 3:45 pm Update on the ECOSOC Dialogue and the 2030 Development Agenda
Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General, UN DESA
3:45 – 5:45 p.m. Roundtable session
How should the UN development system evolve to deliver on the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda in an increasingly diverse world?

The purpose of this discussion is to explore the performance of the UN development system and system leaders’ perspectives on how it needs to evolve to support the 2030 Agenda.
The structure of the session will include brief interventions by Member States to kick-start the dialogue, followed by a roundtable discussion.

Guiding questions:
- In what areas is the UN development system performing well, and what limitations does it face?
- How does it need to evolve in response to the 2030 agenda?
- What specific actions might the leadership of the UNDS take to help the system evolve, and in what time frame?
- How can the UN development system best leverage its strengths and the strengths of others to ensure that the full ensemble of development actors effectively supports the 2030 Agenda?

**Introduction by the moderator**
Mr. David Fairman

**A UNDG perspective**
Ms. Helen Clark, UNDG Chair and UNDP Administrator

**Starter interventions by Member States**
- H.E. Mr. Ahmed Sareer, Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations
- H.E. Ms. Laura Elena Flores Herrera, Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations
- Mr. Simon Koppers, Head, United Nations Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
- H.E. Mr. Carlos Sergio Sobral Duarte Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations

**Open Discussion**

5:45 – 5:55 p.m. Wrap up by the moderator, Mr. David Fairman

5:55 - 6:00 p.m. **Closing remarks**
H.E. Mr. Hector Alejandro Palma Cerna, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

**Evening**

6:00 p.m. **Reception**

7:00 p.m. **Dinner**
Reflections by members of the Independent Team of Advisers (ITA) to the ECOSOC Dialogue
Day 2, Saturday, 27 February

7:45 – 8:45 a.m.  Breakfast and check-out time

9:00 – 9:05 a.m.  Opening
H.E. Mr. Hector Alejandro Palma Cerna, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

Followed by
Recap of previous day discussion by the moderator, Mr. David Fairman

9:05 – 10:15 a.m.  Roundtable session with the Independent Team of Advisers
Key questions on repositioning the UN development system to deliver on the agreed functions in the era of the 2030 Agenda?

The structure will be a roundtable discussion with a set of questions posed by a member of the Independent Team of Advisers to the ECOSOC Dialogue followed by interventions by Member States and UN heads.

Introduction by the moderator
Mr. David Fairman

Opening remarks by the Co-Chairs of the Independent Team of Advisers
- Mr. Juan Somavia, ITA Co-Chair (Chile)
- Mr. Klaus Töpfer, ITA Co-Chair (Germany)

Starter interventions by Member States and ITA members
- H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations
- H.E. Ms. Nguyen Phuong Nga, Permanent Representative of Vietnam to the United Nations
- H.E. Mr. Martin Shearman, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations
- Mr. Mateo Estréme, Chargé d’Affaires, Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations
- ITA members

Open Discussion

10:45 – 11:00 a.m.  Coffee and tea

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.  Two Working Groups
Exchange of views on preliminary proposals

The purpose of the working groups is to exchange views on the preliminary proposals received from Member States and those that emerged from phase 1 of the ECOSOC Dialogue.

This will entail that participants break out into two different working groups.

12:10 – 12:30 p.m.  Reporting back on working group discussions

12:30 – 12:35 p.m.  Closing remarks
H.E. Mr. Hector Alejandro Palma Cerna, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

12:35 – 1:30 p.m.  Lunch

1:45 p.m.  Departure from Greentree