



Economic and Social Council
Operational Activities for Development Segment
*“Reviewing the longer-term positioning of the UN development system
and progress in implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the QCPR”*

ECOSOC Chamber
New York, 23-25 February 2015

Provisional Programme

Day 1 - Monday, 23 February

Morning Session

10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.

Opening

H.E. Ms. María Emma Mejía Vélez, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

Keynote address

Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations
“Renewing the United Nations for the realization of the post-2015 development agenda”

10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The longer-term positioning of UN development system in the context of the post-2015 development agenda

Special briefing

H.E. Ms. María Emma Mejía Vélez, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council
“Key policy messages from ECOSOC dialogue on longer-term positioning of UN development system in the post-2015 era”

Moderator

Mr. David Steven, Senior Fellow and Associate Director, Center on International Development Cooperation, New York University

Panellists

H.E. Mr. Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

H.E. Mr. Albert Toikeusse, Minister of Planning and Development, Côte d'Ivoire (via video link)

H.E. Mr. Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations

H.E. Ms. Koki Muli Grignon, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

General discussion questions

1. How will the changing development landscape and the post-2015 development agenda impact the longer-term positioning of the UN development system, including the inter-linkages between: (a) alignment of functions, (b) funding practices, (c) governance structures, (d) capacity and impact, (e) partnership approaches and (f) organizational arrangements?
2. How will the growing diversity of developments experiences of programme countries affect the functional relevance and capacity requirements of the UN development system in the post-2015 era?
3. What kind of specialization and integration should characterize the work of the UN development system in realizing the post-2015 development agenda?
4. What role can the UN development system be expected to play in leveraging resources and solutions at both country and global levels in the post-2015 era for the realization of the post-2015 development agenda?

Afternoon Session

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. **Introduction of Secretary-General's report on progress in the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) of operational activities of the UN system**

Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under Secretary-General, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

3.15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **How to ensure coherence in the funding of operational activities of the UN system for effective realization of the post-2015 development agenda?**

Moderator

H.E. Ms. María Emma Mejía Vélez, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

Panellists

H.E. Mr. Kikeo Chanthaboury, Vice Minister, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Lao PDR

H.E. Mr. George Wilfred Talbot, Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations

Ms. Berit Fladby, Policy Director for UN Operational Activities, Department for UN and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

Discussant

Mr. Olav Kjørven, Director, Division for Public Partnerships, UNICEF

General discussion questions

1. What changes are needed in the funding architecture of the UN development system at country and global levels if the Organization is to contribute both coherently and effectively to the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda?
2. Is the current imbalance between core and non-core resources for operational activities of the UN system and heavy reliance on programme and project-specific funding compatible with the integration requirements of the post-2015 development agenda?
3. What role could increased supply of core resources to the UN development system play in enabling the Organization to leverage additional funding from other development cooperation actors for the realization of the post-2015 development agenda? Could this leveraging ability of the UN development system become an important source of comparative advantage of the Organization in the post-2015 era?
4. What role can pooled funding mechanisms play in enhancing the coherence in the delivery of operational activities of the UN system, particularly in least-developed countries and those in transition from relief to development, where the objectives of humanitarian assistance and development often need to be pursued in combination?

Day 2 - Tuesday, 24 February

Morning Session

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Dialogue with the Executive Heads of funds and programmes**
Fit-for-purpose in the post-2015 era – which QCPR-mandated actions require accelerated and/or scaled-up implementation if UN development system is to be ready for challenges of post-2015 development agenda?

Moderator

H.E. Ms. María Emma Mejía Vélez, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

Panellists

Ms. Helen Clark, Chair, undg, Administrator, UNDP

Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director, UNICEF

Mr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director, UNFPA (via video link)

Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director, UN-Women

Mr. Amir Mahmoud Abdulla, Deputy Executive Director, World Food Programme (WFP)

Discussant

H.E. Mr. Fernando Carrera Castro, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations, Chair, Executive Board, UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS

General discussion questions

1. What opportunities and challenges do the integration requirements of the post-2015 development agenda pose for entities individually and the UN development system as a whole if the Organization is to continue to remain fit-for-purpose in the new era?
2. Which QCPR mandates require accelerated and/or scaled-up implementation in order to help ensure that the UN development system remains fit-for-purpose in the post-2015 era;
3. What are the implications of the growing diversity of development experiences of countries for the funds and programmes in the post-2015 era, e.g. in terms of: (a) staff capacities, (b) differentiated programme and technical support and (c) the current national execution modality?

Afternoon Session

3.00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Opportunities and challenges to mainstream South-South cooperation by the UN development system in order to maximize its impact on national capacity development**

Moderator

Mr. Yiping Zhou, Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and Secretary-General's Envoy on South-South Cooperation

Panellists

H.E. Ms. Koki Muli Grignon, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

Mr. Tubagus Achmad Choesni, Director for International Development Cooperation, State Ministry of National Development Planning/BAPPENAS, Indonesia

Mr. John Ohiorhenuan, former UN Resident Coordinator, South Africa, former Director, Special Unit on South-South Cooperation, UNDP (TBC)

Mr. Jorge Chediek, UN Resident Coordinator, Brazil

General discussion questions

1. While it is widely acknowledged that South-South cooperation is a complement to North-South cooperation, how can the UN system help in facilitating this role of SSC and what are the key lessons learned from SSC programmes and projects supported by UN development system entities

2. What is the specific value-added of UN development system's support for South-South cooperation among developing countries? Is this potential being effectively realized, or are there challenges that need to be addressed?
3. What are the opportunities and challenges for Southern partners and programme country governments in working with the UN development system in advancing South-South cooperation in the post-2015 era?

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **General Discussion**

Day 3 - Wednesday, 25 February

Morning Session

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Effectiveness of UN system support for national capacity development**

Moderator

Mr. Jens Wandel, UN Assistant Secretary-General and UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau of Management

Special speaker

Mr. Carlos Lopes, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa (via video link)

Panellists

H.E. Mr. Kikeo Chanthaboury, Vice Minister, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Lao PDR

Mr. Tubagus Achmad Choesni, Director for International Development Cooperation, State Ministry of National Development Planning/BAPPENAS, Indonesia

Mr. Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-agency Affairs, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Mr. Jafar Javan, Director, United Nations System Staff College, Turin, Italy

General discussion questions

1. How effective is the UN development system in building national capacities in programme countries, e.g. in terms of supporting the development of policies, institutions and systems? What are the strengths and weaknesses of the UN development system in this regard e.g. compared to other development partners?
2. What are the challenges in measuring both agency-specific and system-wide results and impact in capacity development delivered through operational activities of the UN system?
3. Is the current model of delivering operational activities of the UN development system at the country level sufficiently geared towards building national capacities and systems? If not, what are the main obstacles facing the UN development system in this regard? Do the delivery

models of other development cooperation actors at the country level such as the regional and multilateral development banks and the bilateral donors provide valuable lessons from which the UN development system can learn in this regard? What could be the vision for the evolution of the national execution modality of UN development system entities in the post-2015 era?

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **General Discussion (cont.)**

Afternoon session

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **General Discussion (cont.)**

4.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. **Summary of key messages from the Operational Activities for Development Segment and concluding remarks**
President of the Economic and Social Council

Annex – Informal side events

Day 1 - Monday, 23 February

The role of financing instruments in enhancing UN coherence for the realization of the post-2015 development agenda

Organized by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO), UNDP

23 February, 1:15-2:45 p.m., Delegates Lounge, Private Room 6-8 (UN Secretariat Building)

Contact person: Henriette Keijzers [email: henriette.keijzers@undp.org]

http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/julyhls/pdf15/os_mptfo_undp.pdf

Day 2 - Tuesday, 24 February

The UN system's integrated approach to harmonized business operations

Organized by United Nations Development Group and High-level Committee on Management of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination

24 February, 8:30-10:00 a.m., CR B, UN Secretariat Building

Contact person: Luigi Demunnik (email: luigi.demunnik@undg.org)

http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/julyhls/pdf15/os_side_event.pdf

Mainstreaming of the decent work agenda – presentation of evaluation reports

Organized by the Joint Inspection Unit and the International Labour Office

24 February, 1:15 – 2:45 p.m., CR 8 (UN Secretariat Building)

Contact person: Amber Barth [email: barth@ilo.org]

Day 3 - Wednesday, 25 February

Briefing on progress in launching pilot independent system-wide evaluations

Organized by Interim Coordination Mechanism (JIU, UNEG, OCHA, OIOS, DESA)

25 February, 1:15-2:45 p.m., S2724 Board Room (UN Secretariat Building)

Contact person: Scott Green [email: Green10@un.org]