

Joint Event of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council
“The role of partnerships in the implementation of the
post 2015 development agenda”

9 – 10 of April, 2014

Background

The Outcome Document of the Special Event to Follow-Up Efforts to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals held on September 25th of 2013 underscored the need to strengthen the existing and build new global partnerships for sustainable development under MDG8 and build new partnerships for sustainable development.

With less than 800 days remaining, efforts must be intensified for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, building on successful, effective and well-managed national, regional and global strategies that have allowed the international community to meet several of the MDG targets and to achieve significant and substantial advances in those goals and targets that have not yet been met. Strengthened global partnerships for sustainable development will be a catalyst for the international community to aspire and advance towards an ambitious and transformative sustainable development agenda beyond 2015.

National ownership will be a fundamental factor of the post 2015 development agenda. National efforts will also need to be assisted by international support and an enabling international environment. The mobilization and effective use of all resources, public and private, domestic and international, will be vital. A renewed sense of commitment and partnership holds the key to both leveraging new public and private resources and leveraging stakeholders’ comparative advantage, including in the areas of research, technology, innovation, finance and human capacity.

Objective

The primary objective of the joint thematic debate is to provide a platform for Member States to address how strengthened global partnerships for sustainable development including multi-stakeholders partnerships can contribute to the implementation of the post 2015 development agenda.

The event will promote the scaling-up of the impact of all forms of cooperation in the post 2015 development agenda, and promote the urgent implementation of existing commitments under the global partnership for development while also addressing the emerging role of innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships.

The event will be guided by the following preliminary questions:

- 1) What are the key lessons learned of the implementation of MDG 8 and what incentives can be created to reinforce its implementation?

- 2) While not a substitute to existing cooperation mechanisms, how can multi-stakeholder partnerships be an important complement to achieving internationally agreed development goals, including in the context of the post 2015 development agenda?
- 3) How can Governments, at all levels, incentivize multi-stakeholder engagement for the implementation of sustainable development, in particular from the private sector?
- 4) Which models or mechanisms can help ensure effective monitoring and accountability of the means of implementation of the post-2015 development agenda?

Format and outcome

The joint thematic debate will take place 9 to 10 April 2014 in New York, and will feature three consecutive, interactive, multi-stakeholder panel discussions as well as two partnership sessions.

To avoid any duplication and promote coherence and synergies with the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, the preparations and organization of the event will be carried-out in close consultation with the co-chairs of both groups. A Presidents summary will be issued at its conclusion and will subsequently be made available to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing for their consideration, as applicable.

Participants

Member States are invited to participate at the highest possible level and to express to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council their interest in co-chairing an interactive panel discussion.

Representatives of United Nations agencies and of civil society, major groups and other relevant stakeholders will also be invited to attend including high-level private sector representatives, including CEOs and heads of corporate and non-corporate foundations, as well as representatives from civil society organizations and academic institutions.

Invitations to this joint high-level event, as well as the program and the details on the issues to be addressed during the plenary and the round tables will be sent at a later stage.