

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA),
Division of Social Policy and Development (DSPD)
in collaboration with UNESCO and UN-HABITAT

Expert Group Meeting
**“Creating an Inclusive Society: Practical strategies to promote
social integration”**

10 - 13 September 2007, Paris

Annotated Agenda (Draft)

10 September 2007

8:30-9:00	Registration
	Introductory Session: objectives and expected outcomes of the meeting
9:00-9:45	Welcome and Opening Remarks: Representative of the Division for Social Policy and Development, DESA, Representative of UNESCO, Representative of UNHABITAT
9:45 – 10:15	Introductions of the participants
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:30	Session I: Where are we today? Social inclusion as a major issue in contemporary societies
	<u>Moderator:</u> Sergei Zelenev, DESA
	<u>Introductory remarks:</u> Abdalla Bujra
	<i>Questions for discussion:</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is social inclusion and why it is important?• What factors make an inclusive society possible?• What are the obstacles to social inclusion?• What approaches could be used for promoting social inclusion at the national and local levels?• How is the cultural diversity ensured in the course of the social inclusion?

Roundtable discussion

12:30-14:00

Lunch break

14.00-15.30

Session II: Overcoming exclusion: promoting inclusive institutions and facilitating participation

Moderator: Elisabeth Barot

Introductory remarks : Goran Therborn.
Sangeetha Purushotoman

Questions for discussion:

- Why social exclusion is so persistent? Why many social groups and individuals are unable to participate in a society in a meaningful way?
- What policies could be promoted to prevent disintegration and fragmentation of social fabric and a loss of social cohesion?
- Lessons learned from successful interventions
- What is the role of education to promote social inclusion?

Roundtable discussion

15.30-16.00

Break

16.00-17.45

Session III: Participatory dialogue as a tool for creating an inclusive society

Moderator: Zachary Metz

Introductory remarks: Minu Hemmati

Preliminary questions

- How to ensure unity within diversity?
- What are the appropriate ways to strike a balance between specific interventions aimed at conflict prevention/peace building and a more general mainstreaming approach?
- What are the best ways to build effective partnerships: between governments and Civil Society Organizations; public and private sectors; international organizations and Civil Society Organizations and research institutions/academia, etc.
- Lessons learned

Discussion

17.45-18.0

Wrap-up by the Rapporteur of Day 1 discussions

11 September 2007

9.00-10.30

Session IV: Bringing together communities of policy-makers, researchers and practitioners: enhancing social science-social policy nexus

Moderator: UNESCO

Introductory remarks: John Crowley
Gary Belkin

Questions for discussion:

- What kind of tools could be used to translate social research into policy action?
- What types of policy intervention are needed in countries at different stages of development?
- How the dialogue and exchange of good practices could be facilitated at the national and regional levels?

Presentation of national case studies and discussion

10.30-10.45

Break

10.45-12.30

Discussion (UN-HABITAT)

12.30- 14.00

Lunch break

14.00-15.30

Session V: Ways and means to develop national capacities for inclusive policy processes

Moderator:: Aki Stavrou

Introductory remarks: Glenda Wildschut
Gay Rosenblum-Kumar

Questions for discussion:

- How to create an enabling environment for social inclusion?
- What roles different stakeholders can and should play?
- What are possible strategies to enhance national capacities?
- How effective are these strategies and what are the criteria for effectiveness?

- What are the lessons from experiences of successful and unsuccessful practices?

15.30-16.00

Break

16.00-17.45

Session VI. Role of local governments in promoting political, social and economic inclusion and participation

Moderator: Edesio Fernandes

Introductory remarks: Yves Cabannes
Cezar Busatto

Questions for discussion:

- How can society ensure that the diverse interests of citizens are represented in the decision-making process that affects their lives?
- What specific roles can local governments play to promote social inclusion?
- How to ensure the participation of relevant stakeholders in policy design and implementation? How to balance policies targeting specific social groups and mainstreaming efforts?
- How to harmonize the economic development with social cohesion at local level?

Discussion

17.45-18.00

Wrap-up by the Rapporteur of Day 2 discussions

12 September 2007

09.00-10.30

Session VII. Review of approaches and methods to measure social inclusion and cohesion

Moderator: Mari Fitzduff

Introductory remarks: Margaret Lombe
Martin Angeby
UNESCO (indicators and methods used, good practices)
UNHABITAT (indicators and methods used,good practices)

Questions for discussion:

- How could we assess the levels of social inclusion within and across societies? (i.e., institutions, procedures and mechanisms)
- Which existing methodologies can be recommended to measure social inclusion and cohesion? What are their strengths and weaknesses?
- What are the existing indicators that could be used for this purpose?
- What lessons could be drawn from UNESCO and HABITAT experience in promoting inclusive practices and measuring inclusion?

Discussion

10.30-10.45	Break
10:45 – 12:00	Session VIII : Discussions in the working groups: how can effective systems of monitoring, evaluation and accountability be developed? Preparation of draft recommendations A: Working group B: Working group C: Working group
12.00 – 14.00	Lunch break
14 00- 15.30	Session VIII: Continuation of working groups discussions
15.30-15.45	Break
15.45 – 17.45.	<i>Wrap-up by the Working groups Rapporteurs of Day 3 discussions</i>

13 September 2007

9.00-10.30	Session IX: Policy recommendations: what should be done at the national, regional and international levels Moderator: Sergei Zelenev, DESA Presentations of the working groups Discussion
10.30-10.45	Break
10.45-12.30	Continuation of session IX

12:30 -13:00	Discussion on follow-up Moderator: Makiko Tagashira, DESA
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:30	Finalization and adoption of recommendations
14:30 – 15:00	Conclusion and closing
15.30	Bon voyage!!
