

‘OUR COMMON AGENDA’ SUMMARY OF THEMATIC CONSULTATIONS

Over the course of the five informal thematic consultations, Member States have expressed broad support for the various proposals included in the Secretary General’s “Our Common Agenda” Report.

In light of the unprecedented crises facing the international community, Member States also agreed on the importance of identifying and prioritizing actions on proposals that have received broad support during the consultations during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly.

The views expressed during the informal consultations have been captured under the following two broad headings:

1. Proposals supported by Member States
2. Proposals supported by Member States, but where further clarification/information has been sought

For each of the proposals included in the OCA report, this summary includes the suggested way forward based on the result of the consultations.

1st Thematic consultation: “Accelerating and Scaling up the SDGs, Leaving no one behind”

Date: 10 and 11 February 2022

Chair: State of Kuwait, as Vice-President of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly

Participation: The first thematic consultation plenary segment saw interventions by sixty-four Member States, including twelve on behalf of groups, and one intervention by an Observer of the General Assembly. Additionally, twelve statements not delivered during the meeting were uploaded to the e-Statements platform. Two panel discussions took place in addition to the plenary segment with the participation of representatives of the UN system and other relevant partners (*full list attached*).

1. Proposals that have received support of Member States

1.1.1 Decent work for all

Attention was drawn to the September 2021 Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, which aims to channel national and international, public and private, financial and technical support towards the creation of at least 400 million decent jobs in the care, green and digital economies by 2030 and extend social protection floors to over 4 billion people currently not covered. Reference was also made to the Global Deal Initiative for Decent Work and Inclusive Growth to help mitigate the pandemic’s effects and to contribute to a faster and more equal economic recovery. No objections were made to the call in the report for countries to embrace the ILO guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all, and to adopt them as the minimum standard to ensure progress on decent work for all.

Action: The UN system¹ is invited to continue working on this bundle of proposals under the auspices of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection including by identifying ways and means by which it could assist Member States to promote decent work.

1.1.2. Investment in sectors with the greatest potential for creating more and better jobs

Member States called for concerted efforts towards development of green jobs in industries which are sustainable. Investments should be directed to sectors with the greatest potential for creating more and better jobs in the green and digital economies. Delegations asked to provide specific programmes to support women's return to economic activity, including access to training and credit. Reference was also made to the Climate Action for Jobs Initiative that could feed into the labour market engineering needed to move forward towards COP27.

Action: The UN system² is invited to continue working on this bundle of proposals under the auspices of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection, including by identifying ways and means by which it could assist Member States on implementing them.

1.1.3. Formation of a high-ambition coalition to promote green and digital economy job creation

Member States observed that there is need to steer investments towards sectors with the greatest potential for creating more and better jobs, such as the green, care and digital economies. Technological solutions as means for tackling social and humanitarian needs can be provided by inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

Action: The UN system³ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to provide further details, updates and briefings to Member States on the proposed high-ambition coalition, including its relationship to the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection.

1.1.4. Roadmaps for the integration of informal workers into formal economies and to benefit from women's formal participation in the workforce

Member States requested their participation in the drafting and implementation of roadmaps to integrate informal workers into formal economies.

A clarification was provided by the UN panel during the thematic consultations that the development of roadmaps on the integration of informal workers into formal economies is an invitation for Member States to take action at national level.

Action: The UN system⁴ is invited to provide support to Member States to implement this proposal, upon their request, including under the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection.

¹ The Secretary-General has requested the Inter-Agency task force for Jobs and Social Protection to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

² The Secretary-General has requested the Inter-Agency task force for Jobs and Social Protection to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

³ The Secretary-General has requested the Inter-Agency task force for Jobs and Social Protection to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁴ The Secretary-General has requested the Inter-Agency task force for Jobs and Social Protection to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

1.1.5. Right to adequate housing

There was broad support from Member States to this proposal, in line with target 11.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals and international human rights law. Member States also referenced to the right of adequate housing in relation job creation as well as in the context of the New Urban Agenda.

Action: The UN system⁵ is invited to provide more information on this proposal including by identifying ways and means by which it could assist Member States to achieve the goal of adequate housing, including under the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection.

1.1.6. Five transformative measures for gender equality to be implemented by Member States

Member States expressed strong support for four of the five transformative measures suggested in the Report: (i) repeal of gender-discriminatory laws (target 5.1 of the SDGs); (ii) gender parity in all spheres and all levels of decision-making; (iii) facilitating women's economic inclusion, and more support for women entrepreneurs; and (iv) greater inclusion of the voices of young women. Regarding the fifth proposal on the "Emergency Response Plan" to accelerate the eradication of violence against women and girls, as a priority, Member States have sought additional information before action is initiated by the Secretariat.

A clarification was provided by the UN panel during the thematic consultations that the development of emergency response plans to eradicate violence against women and girls is an invitation for Member States to take action at the national level.

Action: The UN system⁶ is invited to continue working on the four proposals where strong support was received and to provide regular updates to Member States. The UN system⁷ is also invited to provide support on emergency response plans to eradicate violence against women and girls, upon the request of Member States. Such assistance could be through technical assistance and sharing of successful models, including with the involvement of UN Resident Coordinators.

1.1.7. Gender equality measures at the UN

Proposals related to gender equality at the UN (reassessment of the role of the Commission on the Status of Women; gender parity at all levels by 2028 in line with regional representation; and review of UN system capacity to deliver on gender equality) received strong support of the Member States. Delegations called for the strengthening of UN-WOMEN in order to advance women's empowerment and gender equality and requested prior consultation on the Generation Equality Forum.

Action: In addition to the discussion on working methods of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) during its 66th Session, ECOSOC is invited to initiate consultations related to the

⁵ The Secretary-General has requested the Inter-Agency task force for Jobs and Social Protection to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁶ The Secretary-General has requested UN Women and the UNSDG Chair to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁷ The Secretary-General has requested the Spotlight Initiative Core Agencies to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

reassessment of the role of the CSW in order to strengthen efforts towards gender equality in all UN inter-governmental processes. The UN system⁸ is invited to continue working on the other two proposals pertaining to achieving gender parity at all levels by 2028 and reviewing the UN system's capacity to deliver on gender equality and to provide regular updates to Member States through relevant mandated bodies and channels, including the Fifth Committee and other appropriate channels.

1.1.8. Measures to prove legal identity and ending statelessness

No objections were raised regarding this proposal. The general tone of Member State comments on this proposal was to ensure that everyone is seen and recognized, including by advancing measures to prove legal identity (target 16.9 of the SDGs) and end statelessness, including by closing legal loopholes in line with relevant national legislative frameworks.

Action: The UN system⁹ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to provide regular updates to Member States through relevant mandated bodies and channels, including the Statistical Commission, the UNHCR Executive Committee and through the work of the Legal Identity Taskforce and the Statelessness Taskforce.

1.1.9. More meaningful, diverse and effective youth engagement in UN processes for the consideration of the General Assembly, the Security Council and ECOSOC and their respective subsidiary bodies

No objections were raised regarding this proposal to explore an enhanced participation of youth in UN process, following recommendations from the SG's Envoy on Youth.

Action: The Youth Envoy is invited to provide recommendations on youth engagement in UN processes for consideration by Member States. PGA will facilitate a focused discussion during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly on identifying ways and means of engagement of youth in the work of the General Assembly. The ECOSOC and UNSC are invited to facilitate similar discussions in their respective work.

1.1.10. Summit on Transforming Education in 2022

There was significant support for the proposed summit. Delegations emphasized the need to ensure proper involvement of Member State in the process and access to more information on its preparation. The role to be played by UNICEF and UNESCO was highlighted. Some Member States called for this summit to be intergovernmental in nature. Several questions were posed during the consultations related to this summit.

Action: In addition to the briefings already being held specifically on this issue, the Secretary-General is invited to continue working on this proposal and to continue to provide regular briefings to Member States, seeking their inputs, on the scope, financial resources, participants, and modalities of the summit, as well as the role of the newly established Global Cooperation Mechanism for Education in supporting the summit's follow up.

⁸ The Secretary-General has requested DMSPC, DOS, UN Women and his Executive Office to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁹ The Secretary-General has requested the Legal Identity Taskforce, the Statelessness Taskforce and UNHCR, to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

2. Proposals supported by Member States, but where further clarification/information has been sought

1.2.1. Renewed social contract anchored in human rights

Delegations emphasized the global dimensions of the social contract, aligning with the Secretary-General's call for a new global deal that redresses inequalities and rebalances resources, including in the international financial architecture. Delegations requested further clarification on the scope of this proposal.

A clarification was provided by the UN panel during the thematic consultations that the renewal of the social contract is an invitation for Member States to take action at national level, according to their own specific needs and priorities.

Action: The UN system¹⁰ is invited to provide support to Member States, including clarifications, on request.

1.2.2. Universal social protection coverage and establishment of a global fund for social protection

Member States highlighted that financing social protection systems is required in order to close the financing gap, through a combination of measures to be considered by Member States, including the possibility of a committed fund for social protection, a special window on social protection under the Joint SDG Fund, or some other financing mechanism. Member States also encouraged the full utilization of existing institutions and structures to strengthen social protection globally before new structures are created as well as greater collaboration with and support from the International Financial Institutions, namely the World Bank

Action: The UN system¹¹ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to provide additional details on the modalities and scope of the global fund for social protection being explored by the ILO in collaboration with other UN system entities as part of the Global Accelerator for Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions and a related High-Ambition Coalition of Ministers for Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, and other measures for improving and investing in social protection coverage.

1.2.3. Recognition of a universal entitlement to lifelong learning and reskilling

Member States agreed that lifelong education and reskilling should be at the center of the recovery effort for transitioning towards more inclusive, safe, and sustainable societies. It was observed that the definition of lifelong learning may differ by country and its benefits require compliance with respective domestic laws and regulations.

¹⁰ The Secretary-General has requested UNDP, the UNSDG Chair and DCO to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

¹¹ The Secretary-General has requested the Inter-Agency task force for Jobs and Social Protection to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

Action: The UN system¹² is invited to continue working on this proposal and to provide additional details on the process for formal recognition of a universal entitlement to lifelong learning and reskilling, including by informing the deliberations of the Transforming Education Summit.

1.2.4. World Social Summit in 2025

The proposal was welcomed by delegations but there were divergent views regarding its scope. Member States called for the Summit to advance and not replace the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration.

Action: PGA will appoint cofacilitators, during the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, to lead an intergovernmental process related to the World Social Summit in 2025, in particular on its modalities, scope and possible outcomes. The UN system¹³ is invited to provide additional information on the recommendation.

1.2.5. Promotion of political representation for youth, including young women and girls, and a “Youth in politics” index

Noting its importance in society and UN fora, Member States did not object to the idea of increasing the political representation of youth, in line with the limitations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), other international treaties and national contexts with respect to participation in elections.

Member States noted with appreciation the proposed Youth in Politics Index and expressed interest in receiving more information on this recommendation before action is taken by the Secretariat. The Secretary-General’s Youth Envoy noted the Youth in Politics Index could identify barriers to youth participation and propose solutions while respecting sovereignty and national ownership.

Actions: The UN system¹⁴ is invited to further develop the criteria, modalities and scope of the proposed Youth in Politics Index and its possible means of implementation for further consideration by Member States.

1.2.6. Establishment of a dedicated United Nations Youth Office in the Secretariat

The proposal received broad support from delegations. However, specific questions related to the establishment of the office were raised during the consultations.

Action: PGA will appoint cofacilitators in the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly to lead an intergovernmental process related to the establishment of the UN Youth Office. The Secretariat is invited to provide additional information, during the consultations, on means of implementation, comparison between current and proposed structures and mandates, and financing. The Secretariat is also invited to provide details on their efforts in recruiting younger staff for positions at the decision-making level.

¹² The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office, UNESCO, UNICEF and the Envoy on Education to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

¹³ The Secretary-General has requested DESA to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

¹⁴ The Secretary-General has requested his Youth Envoy to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

1.2.7. “Recovery Barometer” that will track career paths and labour market outcomes for youth between now and 2025 and beyond

Member States noted the proposed barometer is promising but requested details, particularly on how it will track career paths and labor outcomes in the absence of appropriate data in many developing countries.

Action: The UN system¹⁵ is invited to develop further the proposed recovery barometer, its terms of reference, access to quality data in developing countries, cooperation with IFIs in its creation and its functioning, including under the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection.

1.2.8. UN Secretariat will develop a policy that puts people at the centre of all its actions

Member States sought more clarity on this proposal and there was a call to include older persons in any such policy.

Action: The UN system¹⁶ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to keep Member States informed.

¹⁵ The Secretary-General has requested the Inter-Agency task force for Jobs and Social Protection to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

¹⁶ The Secretary-General has requested OHCHR, UNHCR, UN Women and the UNSDG Chair to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

2nd Thematic consultation:
“Accelerating the SDGs Through Sustainable Financing and Building Trust”

Date: 14 and 15 February 2022

Chair: United Republic of Tanzania, as Vice-President of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly

Participation: The second thematic consultation included interventions by fifty Member States, including eight on behalf of groups. There were four additional interventions by observers of the General Assembly. One statement from a Member State which was not delivered during the meeting was uploaded to the e-statements platform. Two panel discussions took place in addition to the plenary segment with the participation of representatives of the UN system and other relevant partners (*full list attached*)

1. Proposals that have received broad support of Member States

2.1.1. Beyond GDP

Member States, while expressing support, conveyed that consensus must be reached on which structural indicators would complement GDP as measures of progress to account for human well-being, planetary sustainability, and non—market services and care. It was suggested that complementary measures should account for vulnerabilities, ranging from climate change, geographical remoteness, dependence on trade, and dependence on tourism, *inter alia*. The need for economic models to value unpaid work and take into account the informal economy were also stressed, with view to investing in public services, quality paid care and social protection arrangements. It was stressed that technical support and capacity building should be provided for developing countries to allow them to fully participate in the implementation of the new/additional measures complementing GDP. A suggestion was made that countries should be allowed to choose which statistical indicators could best apply as per their respective national situations. Delegations emphasized the need to build on complementary measures already being developed, such as the Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Index.

Action: Member States welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General to elaborate further on this proposal for Member States consideration¹⁷. Follow-up should take into account the High-Level Panel on the MVI for SIDS established by the PGA in February 2022 in accordance with resolution 76/203.

2.1.2. National listening and envisaging the future exercises; renewed social contract

While supportive of inclusive and meaningful listening exercises, Member States highlighted the need for non-prescriptive methods and cautioned against leaving LLDCs behind given their geographical remoteness and other challenges. It was also emphasized that Member States should have the primary responsibility for undertaking any such exercises and in accordance with their national circumstances and priorities.

A clarification was provided by the UN panel during the thematic consultations that renewal of the social contract is an invitation for Member States to take necessary action at the national

¹⁷ The Secretary-General has requested the CEB High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

level, according to their own specific needs and priorities and that the national listening exercises were just one of the many approaches to obtain feedback for renewing the social contract.

Action: The UN system¹⁸ is invited to provide support to Member States upon their request.

2.1.3. A fairer and more resilient trading system

Member States, while expressing support to a fairer and more resilient trading system that is open, rules-based, transparent and non-discriminatory, called for use of multilaterally agreed terms such as “sustainable production and consumption” rather than “green economies”; the application of the principle of Special and Differential Treatment for developing countries to harness the benefits of international trade; accommodation of interests of low-income and other developing countries in the areas of duty-free-quota-free market access, technology support, accessible financing and LDC-specific support measures and flexibilities under the WTO to assist countries’ graduation processes and prevent future relapse; and for the WTO to continue to play a central role in the development of the rules of international trade.

Action: The UN system¹⁹ is invited to continue working on this proposal through relevant mandated bodies including the WTO.

2.1.4. Aligning business practices with the SDGs

Member States did not raise concerns or specific comments, signaling general acceptance for the proposals related to the global business community aligning their business models to global goals, including the SDGs and Paris Agreement.

Action: The UN system²⁰ is invited to continue working on these proposals and to provide regular updates to Member States through relevant mandated bodies including the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

2. Proposals supported by Member States, but further clarification/information sought

2.2.1. Biennial Summit of the G20, ECOSOC, SG and IFIs

Member States while expressing broad support for the proposal called for additional details on the scope and modalities of the summit; requested that the summit be inclusive of Member States and stakeholders beyond the G20 and Members of ECOSOC; that it be functional, result oriented and build on existing mechanisms, notably the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (and its follow-up) and the 2030 Agenda; that it not duplicate pre-existing mechanisms including the Financing for Development Forum; and that it work towards inter-governmentally agreed priorities of Member States. Reforms in the Bretton Woods institutions to increase the voice of developing nations was deemed necessary, and caution encouraged with regards to creating new mechanisms.

¹⁸ The Secretary-General has requested UNDP with the UNSDG, to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

¹⁹ The Secretary-General has requested the UNSDG Chair, UNDP, DESA, UNCTAD and the Special Envoy for financing the 2030 Agenda to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

²⁰ The Secretary-General has requested the UN Global Compact to lead this work in collaboration with UNSDG and relevant UN entities.

Action: The Secretariat is invited to continue working on this proposal, including the scope and modalities of the summit, and to provide regular updates to Member States. The ECOSOC is invited to further discuss the proposal, taking into account the Member States' call for inclusivity, results-orientation and avoiding duplication with existing processes.

2.2.2. Rule of law and anti-corruption

While expressing broad-based support for the call to strengthen the rule of law and increase inter-governmental cooperation to better tackle corruption and illicit financial flows, Member States requested for the process to be inclusive and underlined the need to prioritize human and institutional capacity building, as well as strengthening transparency in the legislative process; called on the UN to strengthen efforts to promote and facilitate automation and digitization of public services in LDCs to boost transparency and tackle corruption; and suggested that the proposed rule of law assistance only be provided at the request of Member States.

Action: The UN system²¹ is invited to continue working on the related proposals, and to provide regular updates to Member States through relevant mandated bodies and channels including the General Assembly and its Sixth Committee.

2.2.3. Reforming the international tax system and international tax cooperation (including to address illicit financial flows)

There was general support for the proposal for using taxation to reduce extreme inequalities in wealth. On international tax cooperation, Member States recommended an inclusive process comprising of all UN Member States; consultations with taxation experts; upgrading the existing committee of experts in tax matters to an intergovernmental body with experts representing their respective countries; exploring collaboration with IFIs to develop and encourage the implementation of innovative tax technologies; global cooperation in financial integrity to accommodate for fair sharing of revenues; stronger international cooperation to tackle tax evasion and aggressive tax avoidance, money laundering and illicit financial flows, including efforts to address the legal, political, and practical obstacles facing timely and efficient asset recovery; and strengthening the institutional capacity of developing countries to implement new tax proposals.

Action: The UN system is invited to continue working on the related proposals, including addressing the issue of asset recovery, in cooperation with UN Member States, beyond the work of the G20, and to provide regular updates to Member States through existing channels.

²¹ The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office with the Global Focal Point for the Rule of Law and OLA as well as the UN Taskforce on Corruption to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

3rd Thematic consultation:
“Frameworks for a peaceful world – promoting peace, international law and digital cooperation”

Date: 21 and 22 February 2022

Chair: Belgium, as Vice-President of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly

Participation: The third thematic consultation plenary segment included interventions by eighty-four Member States, including fourteen on behalf of groups, and two interventions by Observers of the General Assembly. Additionally, four statements not delivered during the meeting were uploaded to the e-Statements platform. Two panel discussions took place in addition to the plenary segment with the participation of representatives of the UN system and other relevant partners (*full list attached*).

1. Proposals that have received support of Member States

3.1.1. Putting human rights mechanisms on a more sustainable financial footing, including through more flexibility for the United Nations to allocate funding

Member States stressed the need for sustainable and predictable sources of financing for human rights mechanisms and called for the need to strengthen and make full use of existing Human Rights Mechanisms, including the work undertaken and information gathered by Special Procedures and Mandate holders in Geneva, as well as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It was emphasized that the Fifth Committee is the most appropriate committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters.

Action: The Fifth Committee of the General Assembly is invited to further consider this issue.

3.1.2. Application of human rights frameworks and standards to address frontier issues and prevent harms in the digital or technology spaces; access to the internet as a human right

Member States stressed the need to promote full respect for human rights online and prevent harms in the digital or technology spaces. It was emphasized that any normative development of human rights should be within the context of intergovernmental consultations. Member States also stressed that all relevant stakeholders should be consulted as well in order to identify ways to ensure the full application of human rights to frontier issues, taking into consideration such issues as the universal access to the internet as a human right, disruptive blanket Internet shutdowns, hate speech and harassment, privacy or addressing the spread of disinformation.

Action: The UN system²² is invited to work further on these proposals for the consideration of Member States. Member States are invited to explore the possibility of further discussing this issue in an intergovernmental process, in collaboration with all relevant partners, related to the proposed Global Digital Compact as part of the preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future.

²² The Secretary-General has requested OHCHR, his Envoy on Technology and OLA to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

3.1.3. Global Digital Compact

Member States stressed that the Global Digital Compact should serve as an international framework in addressing, inter alia, the digital divide, ensuring digital inclusion, enhancing connectivity, supporting digital transformation and the implementation of the SDGs and protecting human rights online. Member States underlined the importance of an inclusive intergovernmental process, in collaboration with all relevant partners, in the development of the Global Digital Compact. Support was expressed by Member States to the role of the Tech Envoy's Office in promoting digital cooperation. More broadly, Member States recognized the importance of digital connectivity, as it was demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic; emphasized digital cooperation to address the growing digital divide and the usefulness of technology transfer; supported the Secretary-General's proposal to ensure universal access to the internet by 2030; and underlined the centrality of digital innovation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Action: The UN system²³ is invited to develop this proposal further through an open and inclusive process as part of the preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future. During the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, PGA will appoint co-facilitators to lead an intergovernmental process, in collaboration with all relevant partners, related to the Global Digital Compact.

2. Proposals supported by Member States, but where further clarification/information has been sought

3.2.1. Global Code of Conduct that promotes integrity in public information

Member States while welcoming the proposal for a Global Code of Conduct that promotes integrity in public information, sought clarity regarding its formulation.

Action: The UN system²⁴ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to provide further clarifications regarding the formulation and scope of the Code of Conduct to Member States.

3.2.2. Adoption of comprehensive laws against discrimination and strengthening human rights mechanisms

Member States generally supported the adoption of comprehensive laws against discrimination and reference was made to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. Member States agreed on the need to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and supported the strengthening and making full use of human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The necessity to avoid politicization of human rights and using human rights as tools to interfere in the internal affairs of States was mentioned. Member States sought further clarifications regarding the proposal to review the modalities of the UPR as part of new guidelines.

²³ The Secretary-General has requested his Envoy on Technology, UNESCO, ODA and ITU to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

²⁴ The Secretary-General has requested DGC to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

Action: Member States are invited to continue their consideration of these proposals as part of existing processes, including to strengthen and make full use of human rights mechanisms such as the UPR, with the support of OHCHR and other relevant members of the UN system.

3.2.3. Implementation of Secretary General’s Call to Action for Human Rights, including through a UN system-wide agenda for protection and making human rights commitments a reference point in the design and delivery of UN programmes, development assistance and crisis prevention initiatives

While Member States expressed support to the implementation of the Secretary General’s Call to Action for Human Rights, they requested greater clarity on the new UN system-wide agenda for protection, which is intended as an internal tool, as well as on the point that human rights commitments would be made a reference point in the design and delivery of UN development assistance.

Action: The UN system²⁵ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to keep Member States informed.

3.2.4. A New Agenda for Peace

Member States stressed that the New Agenda for Peace should be in full respect of international law and the fundamental principles of the UN Charter.

Four of the proposed core areas of focus of the New Agenda for Peace, namely (1) reducing strategic risks (2) supporting regional prevention (3) putting women and girls at the center of security policy, and (4) investing in prevention and peacebuilding, garnered widespread support from Member States. On the two other areas namely, (1) reshaping responses to all forms of violence, (2) strengthening international foresight and capacities to identify and adapt to new peace and security risks, further clarification was requested.

Member States agreed on the need to ensure adequate, predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding. While expanding the role of PBC including its capacity to address cross-cutting issues was welcomed by Member States, concerns were also expressed, arguing that efforts should be focused on making use of the existing potential and functions of the PBC.

Action: The UN system²⁶ is invited to develop a New Agenda for Peace in close consultation with Member States, and in collaboration with all relevant partners, as part of the preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future.

3.2.5. A multi-stakeholder dialogue on outer space

Member States agreed that outer space, as the common heritage of all humankind, must be explored and utilized for peaceful purposes and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and for the benefit of all States; recognized the need to discuss ways and means to strengthen global governance of outer space, building on the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and other United Nations bodies and in close cooperation with the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the United Nations

²⁵ The Secretary-General has requested OHCHR to lead this work, in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

²⁶ The Secretary-General has requested DPPA with DPO, ODA and OCT to lead this work, in collaboration with relevant UN entities

Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA); and supported a multi-stakeholder dialogue on outer space.

Action: The UN system²⁷ is invited to continue working on this proposal with relevant mandated bodies, including COPUOS and the open-ended working group on reducing space threats, as well as multi-stakeholder actors, to inform intergovernmental processes as part of preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future.

3.2.6. Global Roadmap for the development and effective implementation of international law; regular inclusive dialogues on legal matters of global concern at the General Assembly

Member States stressed that the world is facing a rise in the number of conflict and crisis situations and called for the full respect of international law and the UN Charter. While clarifications on the proposal of a Global Roadmap for the development and effective implementation of international law was sought, the role of the International Law Commission and the need to preserve its mandate was mentioned. The proposal of organizing dialogues in the General Assembly on international law issues of global interest was generally welcomed by Member States while clarifications were sought on the intended format and outcomes of the proposed dialogue. It was also emphasized that the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly is the most appropriate forum to discuss all issues related to international law. During the dialogue, Member States also referred to the importance of strengthening transitional justice and accountability, including through the International Criminal Court. The role of Responsibility to Protect in preventing conflict and atrocity crimes was mentioned.

Action: The UN system²⁸ is invited to continue working on the proposal of a global roadmap and to provide regular updates to Member States. The Sixth Committee of the General Assembly is invited to further consider the proposal of inclusive dialogues on legal matters of global concern.

²⁷ The Secretary-General has requested UNOOSA and ODA to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

²⁸ The Secretary-General has requested OLA to lead this work, in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

**4th Thematic consultation:
“Protecting our planet and being prepared for the future”**

Date: 3 and 4 March 2022

Chair: Dominican Republic, as Vice-President of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly

Participation: The fourth thematic consultation plenary segment saw seventy-nine interventions altogether. This includes thirteen interventions on behalf of groups and four interventions by Observers of the General Assembly. One statement from a Member State which was not delivered during the meeting was uploaded to the e-statements platform. Two panel discussions took place in addition to the plenary segment with the participation of representatives of the UN system and other relevant partners (*full list attached*).

1. Proposals that have received support of Member States

4.1.1. The independence, authority, and financing of WHO must be strengthened

There was significant support to strengthen the independence, transparency, and accountability of the WHO and to equip the organization with adequate and predictable financing.

Action: Member States are invited to continue consideration of these proposals at the World Health Assembly.

4.1.2. Product development and access to health technologies

Member States called for concerted efforts to accelerate product development, local production, technology transfer through TRIPS waiver, and access to affordable healthcare technologies in developing countries.

Action: Member States are invited to consider these proposals in the appropriate bodies, including the WTO, with a view to further advancing access to health technologies.

4.1.3. Universal Health Coverage

Member States underscored the importance of recommitting to universal health coverage to advance the SDGs and recognized it as a critical means for enhancing social protection.

Action: Member States are invited to further consider this proposal, including at the GA High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage in 2023. The UN system is invited to provide support as needed.

4.1.4. A strong post-2020 biodiversity framework

While Member States expressed support to the adoption of a strong post-2020 global diversity framework, they stressed the importance of providing adequate means of implementation.

Action:

Member States are invited to continue their discussions on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework in ongoing processes under the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be concluded by the resumed 15th Conference of the Parties (CBD COP15).

4.1.5. Private actors to prioritize reducing absolute emissions and negative biodiversity impacts

Delegations recognized the key role of the private sector in reducing emissions and the necessary actions that they would need to take in their respective national capacities to ensure private sector compliance

Action: The Secretary-General is invited to continue his efforts to engage the private sector regarding their actions to cut emissions this decade, and to provide regular updates to Member States through the annual UNFCCC Climate Change Conferences and/or other intergovernmental and international climate change related meetings.

4.1.6. Capitalize the World Meteorological Organization Systematic Observations Financing Facility to ensure that every person is covered

Recalling that the United Nations has set a five-year time frame to ensure that every person is protected by early warning systems against extreme weather and climate change, Member States supported the proposal to make effective use of early warning systems, particularly the World Meteorological Organization Systematic Observations Financing Facility.

Action: The UN system is invited to continue working on this proposal in coordination with the World Meteorological Organization and to provide regular updates to Member States through existing channels, including through meetings of the World Meteorological Organization, the annual UNFCCC Climate Change Conferences and/or other intergovernmental and international meetings.

4.1.7. Food Systems Summit follow-up

Member States recognized the importance of addressing the factors that impact food security and advocated to make food systems sustainable and more resilient, which relates to the objectives of the Food Systems Summit.

Action: The UN system²⁹ is invited to continue working on the follow-up to the Food Systems Summit, in consultation with Member States, and to provide regular updates.

4.1.8. The goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius

There was significant support and calls by delegations to adhere to the 1.5-degree Celsius goal, in line with the provisions of the Paris Agreement. Member States underscored the importance of implementing the global frameworks on climate change; and stressed that environmental matters, including climate finance, reaching global net-zero emissions by 2050, and other climate actions, must be guided by the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement.

Action: Member States are invited to accelerate their efforts to achieve this goal in line with the Paris Agreement.

²⁹ The Secretary-General has requested the UNSDG Chair and the Food Systems Coordination Hub to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

2. Proposals supported by Member States, but where further clarification/information has been sought

4.2.1. Account for the interest of future generations in multilateral fora

While Member States welcomed the emphasis on the interest of future generations in national and global decision-making, they stressed that the defense of the interests of future generations is a shared responsibility, and as such should fall under the purview of the General Assembly. Several Member States also referenced the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as the agreed framework for safeguarding the prosperity of both current and future generations.

Member States conveyed in principle support for a forum to take future generations into account rather than for the specific proposal regarding the Trusteeship Council, on which further clarification was sought, including on the proposed means of implementation and potential amendments to the UN Charter; emphasis was placed on the need for careful, comprehensive, and inclusive consultations involving Member States on any proposal having a bearing on long-term governance strategies.

Action: The Secretary-General³⁰ is invited to develop these proposals further and revert to the General Assembly with a more detailed note. This should take into account reservations expressed by several delegations regarding the repurposing of the Trusteeship Council. The General Assembly is invited to give further intergovernmental consideration to these proposals as part of the preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future.

4.2.2. Declaration on Future Generations

Member States while expressing support for this proposal requested further information on the modalities for the development of a Declaration on Future Generations and emphasized that the declaration should be the result of intergovernmental negotiations.

Action: PGA will appoint cofacilitators during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly to lead an intergovernmental process related to the Declaration on Future Generations as part of the preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future.

4.2.3. Appointment of a Special Envoy for Future Generations

Member States while welcoming this proposal, sought further information on the function and financing of the Office of the Special Envoy; underscored the importance of avoiding overlap with existing frameworks and mandates; recommended that the Special Envoy work in close coordination with the Scientific Advisory Board and the proposed Futures Lab; and emphasized the need for prior coordination with Member States.

Action: The Secretary-General is invited to continue working on this proposal in the context of preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future.

³⁰ The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

4.2.4. “Futures Lab”

Delegations requested for further clarification, including on the modalities, financing, method of data collection and the correlations of the outcomes of a “Futures Lab” with the priorities of Member States at the national level.

Action: The UN system³¹ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to keep Member States informed, including through further consultations, where required.

4.2.5. Strategic Foresight and Global Risk Report

While expressing general support for the proposal, Member States requested further clarity, particularly on the body that will prepare the report, the data and the way the report will be utilized. Delegations also had queries pertaining to the periodicity of the report and the need to link the preparation of the report with existing mechanisms and expertise, such as the United Nations Global Risk Assessment Framework, and to take preventive actions based on concrete recommendations.

Action: The UN system³² is invited to continue working on this proposal and to keep Member States engaged, including on the connection to the Future Lab.

4.2.6. Emergency Platform

The proposal for an Emergency Platform was viewed positively by delegations, and its value for strengthening response to complex global crisis situations was noted. Member States, however requested for greater clarity on such a platform, including the criteria for its activation, funding, membership, terms of reference and scope. Delegations also underlined the importance of aligning with existing mechanisms and the need for avoiding duplications in UN processes.

Action: The Secretary-General is invited to further develop this proposal for Member State consideration as part of preparations for the proposed Summit of the Future.

4.2.7. Global vaccination plan and call for an emergency task force

Member States strongly supported the call for a *global vaccination plan*, underscoring the need to scale up efforts to make COVID-19 vaccine available, accessible, and affordable. It was clarified by the UN panel during the thematic consultations that the *global vaccination plan* called for in Our Common Agenda report is the same as the WHO strategy to vaccinate 70 per cent of the world’s population by mid-2022, in accordance with the Secretary-General’s call to members of the G20 in October 2021³³.

Delegations supported the call to recognize the COVID-19 vaccine as a global public good and sought more clarification on the proposal for an *emergency task force* underscoring that any such a plan be inclusive, involving all stakeholders.

³¹ The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

³² The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office and UNDRR to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

³³ “*Last month, I joined the World Health Organization in launching a new Global Vaccination Strategy with an aim of getting vaccines into the arms of 40 per cent of people in all countries by the end of this year — and 70 per cent by mid-2022*”, [Secretary-General’s remarks to the media at the G20](#).

Action: Member States are invited to respond to the Secretary-General’s call to create an emergency task force bringing together all the countries with vaccine production capacities, WHO, the Gavi Alliance and international financial institutions as well as other key stakeholders.³⁴

4.2.8. Global health security and preparedness

Delegations underscored the need for pandemic prevention and preparedness and expressed their support to the recommendations of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparation and Response. They however noted that issues of health security and pandemic preparedness must not be securitized, and that it was important to align any discussions on the subject with ongoing processes in WHO, Geneva.

Action: Member States are invited to continue their discussions regarding this proposal.

4.2.9. Solidarity package of support to developing countries

There was significant support by Member States for the Secretary-General’s call for a credible solidarity package of support. Several delegations noted that the USD 100 billion target should have been met by 2020. While delegations welcomed the proposal of allocating 50 percent of the proposed USD 100 billion to adaptation and resilience, there was also calls to dedicate finance for loss and damage. Delegations also emphasized the principles of equity, and Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC) of countries. Reference was made to the Glasgow Climate Pact, and the need to implement its provisions on climate finance.

Action: In line with the COP26 (Glasgow) decision, developed countries to fully deliver on the USD 100 billion goal urgently, and to collectively double financing for adaptation compared to 2019 levels by 2025.

4.2.10. Leaders Meeting ahead of the first stocktaking in 2023

While the proposal was viewed positively by delegations, Member States reiterated the leadership of UNFCCC, and the Paris Agreement as the main platform of discussions on this matter. They also sought for more clarity on the meeting and underlined that any such stocktaking meeting should be inclusive and representative of all member states. It was clarified during the consultations that the Secretary-General has been requested to convene the leaders meeting by COP 26³⁵, who have also clarified objectives for this meeting in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

³⁴ Secretary-General Calls for ‘Greatest Global Public Health Effort in History’ to Bridge Vaccine Gap as World Marks 4 Million Deaths from COVID-19 Pandemic, <https://www.un.org/press/en/2021/sgsm20814.doc.htm>.

³⁵ 26th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP26), “[Glasgow Climate Pact](#)”: Decision 1/CMA.3, para 86: “*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement... notes the urgent need to close the gaps in implementation towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene world leaders in 2023 to consider ambition to 2030*”.

Action: The Secretary-General is invited to continue to provide regular updates to Member States.

4.2.11. Carbon pricing mechanisms

There were divergent views on this proposal, with a few delegations viewing this proposal positively while several delegations called for a cautious approach pointing to a lack of consensus on adopting a single framework for carbon pricing.

Action: The UN system is invited to continue working on this proposal mindful of UNFCCC principles and through existing channels such as the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, UNEP-FI and in collaboration with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

4.2.12. Measures to address territorial threats of climate change

While recalling the severe threats of climate change, several delegations noted that there is no agreed multilateral definition of territorial threats of climate change.

Action: Member States are invited to continue consideration of this proposal.

4.2.13. Finding ways to prevent, protect and resolve situations of environmental displacement

Delegations that addressed this proposal recognized the need for further discussions on the proposal.

Action: Member States are invited to continue consideration of this proposal.

4.2.14. Recognition of the right to a healthy environment.

Delegations recognized the need for further discussions on the proposal while taking note of the recognition of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right by the Human Rights Council.

Action: Member States are invited to continue consideration of this proposal.

**5th Thematic consultations:
“Enhancing International Cooperation”**

Date: 10 and 11 March 2022

Chair: Republic of Slovenia, as Vice President of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly

Participation: The fifth thematic consultation included interventions by sixty-eight Member States, including twelve on behalf of groups. There were three additional interventions by Observers of the General Assembly. Two panel discussions took place in addition to the plenary segment with the participation of representatives of the UN system and other relevant partners (*full list attached*).

1. Proposals that have received broad support of Member States

5.1.1. Upgrading the United Nations to support global discussion, negotiation, progress, solutions, and action to address our most urgent collective goals

Member States agreed on the timely proposal of the Secretary-General to further upgrade the UN system to remain agile, flexible, and operational to be able to meet current and emerging challenges. There was general understanding that the purposes and principles of the UN Charter must continue to remain at the heart of an upgraded, networked, inclusive, and efficient multilateral cooperation.

Action: The UN system is invited to continue working on the related proposals.

5.1.2. High-level, multi-stakeholder “Summit of the Future” to advance ideas for governance arrangements

Member States viewed positively the proposal to convene a high-level, multi-stakeholder Summit of the Future in 2023, while further clarification was sought, including on other issues linked to the Summit, including the High-level Advisory Board, the Emergency Platform, and the Declaration on Future Generations. There was general agreement that preparations and outcome of the Summit should be an inclusive intergovernmental process, which actively engages a broad array of stakeholders, with an effort to build consensus and the need for an ambitious, action-oriented, future-oriented and tangible outcome document with a view to improving global governance, to be adopted at the political level.

Action: The PGA will appoint co-facilitators during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly to lead an intergovernmental process to agree on the modalities of the Summit. The UN system³⁶ is invited to provide additional information and regular updates, as well as support to advance this proposal to hold the proposed Summit.

5.1.3. Improvement in the recruitment and retention of young people from diverse backgrounds, including young women, in advancing their careers

Member States agreed on the need for youth empowerment across the UN system and welcomed the proposals to improve the recruitment and retention of young people from diverse

³⁶ The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

backgrounds, especially young women, as well as to create a more flexible environment to support junior staff. Delegations stressed the importance of ensuring equitable geographic representation to reflect the diversity of the membership, while underlining that these efforts should not affect the prospects of other age groups, as it would secure the accommodation of underrepresented groups, including women and indigenous people.

Action: The UN system³⁷ is invited to continue working on this proposal to improve the recruitment and retention of young people, including young women, in a geographically balanced manner without impacting the prospects of other age groups, providing regular updates to Member States.

5.1.4. Re-establishment of the Secretary-General’s Scientific Advisory Board and explore better linking of knowledge centers across the UN system

Member States reacted positively to strengthening the role of the UN as a source of reliable data and evidence, as well as for the UN to become more strategic in knowledge production. They welcomed the proposal to re-establish the Secretary General’s Scientific Advisory Board but requested greater clarity on the Terms of Reference of constituting the Board; and underlined the importance of transparency, gender equality and geographical representation in the selection of its members.

Action: The UN system³⁸ is invited to continue working on these proposals and to keep Member States informed.

5.1.5. Annual meeting with all heads of regional organizations

Member States expressed general support to strengthen cooperation between the UN and regional organizations in accordance with their respective mandates and the principles of the UN Charter and were supportive of the proposal for an annual meeting with all heads of regional organizations. It was suggested that the annual forum should explore a possible bottom-up approach in sharing best practices from regional organizations to the UN.

Action: The UN system³⁹ is invited to continue working on this proposal and to keep Member States informed through existing channels, including through mandated reports to the Security Council and the General Assembly and through the Regional Commissions as appropriate.

5.1.6. Active dialogue between the United Nations system, international financial institutions and regional development banks

Member States noted that multi-stakeholder partnerships should be strengthened through the streamlining of existing frameworks, not adding new ones. Member States stressed that an enhanced partnership would give impetus to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs together with tackling the COVID 19-pandemic, while it would also create progress in global financial

³⁷ The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office, his Youth Envoy and DMSPC to lead this in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

³⁸ The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office with UNESCO and DESA to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

³⁹ The Secretary-General has requested DPPA and Regional Commissions, considering their privileged position to interact with other regional and subregional organizations to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

governance and could contribute to better addressing threats to international peace and security, including terrorism and organized crime.

Action: The UN system⁴⁰ is invited to continue working on this proposal, including in the context of the proposed Biennial Summit, and to keep Member States informed through existing channels, including the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development, the consultative dialogue of the ECOSOC Bureau with the boards of the World Bank Group and the IMF, and engagement between the United Nations and the G20.

5.1.7. Multinational corporations to small and medium-sized corporations, to participate in the Sustainable Development Goals and climate action

Delegations reaffirmed the importance of public-private partnerships and the need to involve private sector actors and businesses to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs and climate action. Member States also highlighted public-private partnerships to ensure a more balanced growth, strengthening accountability for human rights violations, and upholding standards of good environmental, social and corporate governance.

Action: The UN system⁴¹ is invited to continue to explore ways of strengthening public-private partnerships with Member States, through existing mechanisms, including the Global Compact.

5.1.8. Enhance parliamentary inputs at the United Nations

Member States expressed support to the proposal for better involvement of national and regional parliaments and seeking their inputs across the UN processes, including the implementation of SDGs, the Agenda 2030, human rights, gender equality and climate change. It was suggested to hold dedicated parliamentary hearings ahead of UN summits to ensure stronger parliamentary oversight.

Action: The UN system⁴² is invited to develop further ways to support countries in enhancing parliamentary inputs in the work of the UN

2. Proposals supported by Member States, but where further clarification/information has been sought

5.2.1. Steps to bring the governance bodies and funding of development agencies closer in alignment to maximize impact

Member States expressed general support for the proposal. Member States positively viewed the progress made by the UNDS; recognized the ability of the renewed RC system and the UN Country Teams to deliver coherently and collaboratively; emphasized the importance to ensure predictable and adequate funding for the core activities of the UNDS through existing funding arrangements; noted the lack of transformation in donor practices in line with the commitments of the Funding Compact; and called for greater synergies between the UN Regional Commissions and sub-regional organizations to advance sustainable development through a homegrown development approach. Member States also took the opportunity to raise a number

⁴⁰ The Secretary-General has requested the UNSDG chair to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁴¹ The Secretary-General has requested the Global Compact and UNSDG to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁴² The Secretary-General has requested DPPA, DESA and UNDP to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

of issues regarding the UN Development System (UNDS). To this end, it was underscored the necessity of taking into account national priorities and specific circumstances of each country while also addressing the linkage between development and other issues such as peace, security and climate. It was also reaffirmed that the QCPR mechanism is the appropriate tool to assesses the effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact of UN operational activities for development.

Action: The UN system⁴³ is invited to provide additional information to Member States regarding this proposal.

5.2.2. Dedicated focal point for civil society within all UN entities, enhanced role of the Office for Partnerships

The proposal for creating a dedicated focal point for civil society in all UN entities supported by an enhanced role for the UN Office for Partnerships was welcomed with caution. Member States proposed that the civil society focal points should not add new structures or layers and requested more information on the role of the focal points and that of the Office for Partnerships. A clarification was provided during the consultations indicating that most UN entities already have civil society focal points in place, with the proposal being to ensure that all entities do so in the future.

Action: The UN system⁴⁴ is invited to provide additional information on the continued effort to ensure that each entity designate civil society focal points within existing resources as well as on the proposed enhanced role for the Office of Partnerships for improved stakeholder engagement with the UN.

5.2.3. High-level Advisory Board to be led by former Heads of State/Government

While Member States positively welcomed the proposed High-level Advisory Board, delegations also expressed concern with the Board being tasked with the responsibility of identifying global public goods and other areas of common interest, when these concepts do not have any multilaterally agreed definitions. Member States also requested for further clarification on the selection process, terms of reference of the Board, and emphasized the need for gender and geographical representation in the composition of the Advisory Board.

A clarification was provided during the consultations indicating that the Board would focus on proposals to ensure more effective governance at the multilateral level and that a change in name of the Board would be considered.

Action: Following the consultations, on 18 March 2022, the establishment, composition and mandate of the High-level Advisory Board has been confirmed by the Secretary-General, with the title of the Board updated to the High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism. The Board is invited to engage with Member States during its consultations and deliberations.

⁴³ The Secretary-General has requested the UNSDG Chair to support Member States in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁴⁴ The Secretary-General has requested all UN entities to establish a dedicated focal point for civil society, if they have not already done so.

5.2.4. Encourage Member States to give serious consideration to increase opportunities for engagement by civil society and other stakeholders

Member States while expressing general support for wider stakeholder participation, including civil society, private sector, thought leaders, youth, parliaments, local and regional governments, academia, under-represented groups, in the UN's work emphasized the need to preserve the intergovernmental character of the organization. Member States agreed to the value of digital solutions and hybrid meetings that allow for wider civil society participation in UN processes. They also called for protections for participating stakeholders against reprisals. The proposal for an annual civil society caucus during the High-Level Week received support from Member States. There were divergent views regarding the ECOSOC NGO Committee; while a section of Member States called for reform of the NGO Committee in order to enhance the transparency, consistency and impartiality, others opposed this approach. The need to finalize any specific arrangements based on consensus was stressed. Member States also advocated that opening the UN up will enrich its discussions and work and should not be seen as a threat to the principle that decisions eventually rest with the Member States.

Action: Member States are invited to continue their discussions on the engagement of civil society and other stakeholders in intergovernmental bodies and processes, through existing channels, including the ECOSOC NGO Committee and other NGO Engagement mechanisms.

5.2.5. Advisory Group on Local and Regional Governments

While Member States supported the proposal for creating an ‘Advisory Group on Local and Regional Governments’, others questioned the rationale for such an Advisory Group since collaboration with subnational, regional, and local authorities is in fact already being carried out by the UN Country Teams; and highlighted the importance to respect national laws and sovereignty of the States.

Action: The UN system⁴⁵ is invited to further develop this proposal and to share insights with Member States on the potential areas of cooperation between local and regional governments and their networks and the UN.

5.2.6. A wider transformation towards a United Nations “2.0”:

Member States welcomed the SG's vision to work towards UN 2.0 related to increased effectiveness, less bureaucracy and results-oriented action, as well as enhancing the capabilities of the Organization via a “quintet of change” and a stronger focus on data analytics, digital transformation, strategic foresight, and results orientation, with some offering their expertise and lessons-learned in this area. Member States also sought more information on the steps that the UN proposes to take towards a “United Nations 2.0”.

Action: The UN System⁴⁶ is invited to continue working on this vision and provide regular updates to Member States on measures it plans to implement to move towards a UN 2.0.

⁴⁵ The Secretary-General has requested UN Habitat and UNDP to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

⁴⁶ The Secretary-General has requested his Executive Office to lead this work in collaboration with relevant UN entities.

5.2.7. Member States' financial obligations be met in full and on time ... focus more on results and improve mandate delivery

The need for more stable financial footing and more predictable and sustainable funding was recognized, including for all Human Rights mechanisms, which are facing particular challenges in being put to full use. Member States expressed readiness to consider further ways to improve the budget process based on principles of effectiveness of mandate delivery, efficiency in use of resources and transparency and accountability to Member States. They also highlighted the role of the Fifth Committee in discussing any budgetary, financial, and administrative matters, including those related to the establishment of any office in the Secretariat. However, positions diverged as regards the proposals calling for greater flexibility and additional delegated authority to the Secretariat in terms of use of financial resources.

Action: Member States are invited to continue consideration of this proposal within the framework of the Fifth Committee.

5.2.8. Adapt the intergovernmental organs to the needs and realities of today

Member States recognized the need for continued work for the revitalization of the General Assembly, strengthening of the ECOSOC and reforming the Security Council to ensure that the main organs of the UN reflect the needs and realities of today. Member States reaffirmed the importance of the Intergovernmental Negotiation on Security Council Reform (IGN) and recalled their commitments made during the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

Member States supported the role of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the HLPF for monitoring and facilitating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

There were also diverging views as regards expanding the Security Council's agenda to include issues such as climate change or expanding the Peacebuilding Commission to new settings. Some stressed that special procedures should be adequately funded to ensure they can fulfil their critical mandate in an independent and comprehensive manner; and noted the need to review the impact of existing financing mechanisms on adherence of the UN system with principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity in the consideration of human rights issues.

Action: Member States are invited to continue discussions within General Assembly processes related to the UN revitalization, along with other relevant reform tracks. In line with relevant decisions of the General Assembly, PGA will continue to support the IGN to discuss the reform of the Security Council and instill new life into the process.

Annex

PANEL DISCUSSIONS – CLUSTER 1

UN system panel discussion

Panelists: Ms. Sima Bahous, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, Mr. Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization, Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Moderated by Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme.

Multistakeholder panel discussion

Panelists: Mr. Danilo Türk, former President of Slovenia and President of Club de Madrid, Ms. Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation, Mr. Edward (Eddie) Ndopu, SDG Advocate, Mrs. Yvonne Aki-Sawyers, Mayor - Freetown City Council and Ms. İlayda Eskitaşoğlu of Young Leaders for SDGs.

Moderated by Ms. Melissa Fleming, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications

PANEL DISCUSSIONS – CLUSTER 2

UN system panel discussion

Panelists: Under Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs Mr. Liu Zhenmin; Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Ms. Rebecca Grynspan; Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Ms. Ghada Waly; Special Advisor on Africa to the United Nations Ms. Christina Duarte; Assistant Secretary General/Assistant Administrator and Director of Bureau for Policy and Programme Support in UNDP Mr. Haoliang Xu.

Moderated by Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Multistakeholder panel discussion

Panelists: Mr. Robert Suarez Santos, Secretary General of the International Organization of Employers; Dr. Sam Mueller, Founder of the Hague Institute for Innovation of Law; Ms. Novato Msamati, Managing Director of the Afrolutionist; Ms. Sara Hossain, Honorary Executive Director of the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust; Mr. Stefano Prato, Global Coordinator of the Civil Society Financing for Development Group; Mr. Javier Surasky, Centro de Pensamiento de Strategico Internacional.

Moderated by Ms. Elizabeth Cousens, President and Chief Executive Officer of the UN Foundation.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS – CLUSTER 3

UN system panel discussion

Panelists: Under-Secretary-General for Policy Mr. Volker Türk, Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Ms. Rosemary A. DiCarlo, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and UN Legal Counsel Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares, High Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Michelle Bachelet, Assistant-Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions Mr. Alexander

Zouev, Deputy Head/Director of the Office of Counter-Terrorism Office Mr. Raffi Gregorian, Assistant-Secretary-General and Acting Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano.

Moderated by Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications Ms. Melissa Fleming.

Multistakeholder panel discussion

Panelists: Ms. Rosa Emilia Salamanca, Director, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Action (CIASE); Dr. Peter Martinez, President of Secure World Foundation, H.E. Hanna Suchocka, Club de Madrid, former Prime Minister of Poland; Dr. Amandeep Gill, President, International Digital Health & AI Research Collaborative (I-DAIR), and Ms. Shadi Rouhshahbaz, Founder of Peace Mentors, Regional Coordinator of MENA, United Network of Young Peacebuilders.

Moderated by Dr. Adam Lupel, Vice President, International Peace Institute.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS – CLUSTER 4

UN system panel discussion

Panelists: Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme, Ms. Inger Andersen; Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Ms. Patricia Espinosa; Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, Ms. Mami Mizutori; Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Ms. Shamila Nair-Bedouelle; Director, Humanitarian, Financing, and Resource Mobilization for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Ms. Heli Uusikyla; Assistant Secretary General for World Health Organization, Mr. Stewart Simonson.

Moderated by Ms. Melisa Fleming, Under-Secretary-General for UN Global Communications.

Multistakeholder panel discussion

Panelists: Ms. Sophie Howe, Commissioner for Future Generations of Wales; Mr. Elhadj As Sy, Co-Chair of the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board, Chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation Board and Former Secretary General of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society; Ms. Rachel Kyte, Dean, Fletcher School, Tufts University; Dr. Debra Roberts, co-Chair of IPCC WGII on Adaptation; Mr. Toby Ord, Global Risk and Emergency Platform, Oxford University; Mr. Ernest Gibson, member of UN-SG's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change; Ms. Valeria Colunga, Next Gen Fellow, UN Foundation.

Moderated by Ms. Sofia Borges, Senior Vice President and Head of UN Foundation - New York Office.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS – CLUSTER 5

UN system panel discussion

Panelists: Mr. Volker Türk, Under-Secretary General for Policy; Ms. Catherine Pollard, Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy; Mr. Robert Andrew Piper, Assistant-Secretary-General for Development Coordination in UNDCO; Mr. Ramiz Alakbarov, Deputy Special Representative, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Afghanistan; and Ms. Olajobi Makinwa, Chief on Intergovernmental Relations & Africa in UN Global Compact.

Moderated by Ms. Ulrika Modéer, Assistant-Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director in UNDP.

Multistakeholder panel discussion

Panelists: H.E. Ms. Heidi Hautala, Vice President of the European Parliament; H.E. Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union; Dr. Vasu Gounden, Executive Director, African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes; Dr. Anne-Marie Slaughter, Chief Executive Officer, New America; Dr. Thomas Hale, Associate Professor Oxford University; Ms. Aishwarya Machani, U.N. Foundation Next Generation Fellow.

Moderated by Ms. Margaret Besheer, UN Correspondent, Voice of America.