



Organization: The European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils Network (EEAC Network)

Website: <https://eeac.eu/>

Organization's Focal Point:

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Chair

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Chapeau

(Add your concise, concrete, and action-oriented language for the Chapeau)

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 1)

Chapter II. International peace and security

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 2)

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

Proposal:

To recognize the current and future role of national and subnational scientific expert panels and sustainable development advisory councils in the transition towards a sustainable future, due to their Science-Policy-Society interface position.

Justification:

Due to their nature, composition and mandates, these bodies are able to organize broad stakeholder inclusion, enhancing better connections between society, science and policymakers.

As stated in the Global Sustainable Development Report 2019 "The Future is Now – Science for Achieving Sustainable Development", prepared by Independent Group of Scientists appointed by the Secretary-General, "Science can support and be guided by the 2030 Agenda, with its 17 Goals and inherent trade-offs and co-benefits. Engagement on behalf of the Goals can be facilitated by, among others, permanent national and international scientific expert panels and advisory councils for sustainable development" (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/24797GSDR_report_2019.pdf; page 151).

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 4)

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

Proposal:

To include an invitation to national and subnational governments and parliaments to establish sustainable development councils or similar bodies and to foster the exchange among them in order to accelerate what works best in delivery of sustainable development transformative pathways.

Justification:

The 1992 Rio Earth Summit mandated all countries to establish National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS) and develop the necessary national governance structures to put them in place (Agenda 21, Chapter 8, paragraph 7). In many cases, this also led to the creation of National Councils on Sustainable Development (NCSDs).

The call for NSDSs and NCSDs was repeated in the preparation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, 2002) and resulted in a clear commitment in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

In 'The Future We Want', the Rio +20 Outcome Document, world leaders underlined the need for more coherent and integrated planning and decision-making at the national, sub-national and local levels and called on countries to 'strengthen national, sub-national and/or local institutions or relevant multi-stakeholder bodies and processes, as appropriate, dealing with sustainable development, including to coordinate on matters of sustainable development and to enable effective integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development' (Paragraph 101).

After the approval of the 2030 Agenda, some governments established national councils for sustainable development or SDGs councils as multi-stakeholder platforms for implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda.