

Organisation name: One World Trust

Contact: Robert Whitfield, Chair. rwhitfield@oneworldtrust.org

Website: www.oneworldtrust.org

Chapeau

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

We propose the establishment of funding mechanisms to strengthening the UN and other international institutions of global governance. These could include a carbon tax, an international financial transaction tax and/or taxation on other international services and activities as might be appropriate, equitable and feasible.

Chapter II. International peace and security

We propose that

- a. The UNSC should abide by the UNGA resolution of 26 April 2022 mandating a debate when a veto is cast in the Security Council.
- b. The UN regional and national early warning mechanism should be improved, alerting the UNSC of potential challenges to peace through a UN Early Warning for Preventing Conflict, reforming the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and strengthening the early warning and assessment capacities
- c. <u>A Planetary Emergency should be declared and a Planetary Emergency Platform established</u> in order to facilitate better cooperation on addressing current crises including armed conflict, climate change and serious threats to the <u>nine planetary boundaries</u>;

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

We propose that

- a. A global framework for the governance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) be established as a matter of urgency (a goal which we have actively supported for the past three years see Effective, Timely and Global the Urgent Need for AI Global Governance).
- b. The Pact for the Future should set out the process by which this framework could be established, building upon the Interim Report of the High Level Advisory Body (HLAB) on AI and its planned final report due by August 31st 2024, and setting out how the framework would relate to the Bletchley AI Safety process and other international AI governance processes.
- c. The Pact should convene a multistakeholder World Conference on AI Governance in 2025, with the HLAB Final Report as a key input, as a prelude to nation states appointing negotiators for the establishment of a UN Framework Convention on AI, drawing upon precedents such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

We recommend:

- a) Establishment of representatives of future generations at all governance levels, including a <u>UN Special Envoy for Future Generations</u> and Commissioners/Ombudspersons for Future Generations at regional, national and city levels;
- b) Further development, affirmation and implementation of rights protecting future generations including through the <u>International Court of Justice Case on Climate Change</u>, Human Rights Council and the UN Special Envoy of Future Generations (once it is established).

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

Against a backdrop of insufficient implementation of crucial Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) our proposals aim to strengthen the follow-up mechanisms (from now on referred to as accountability mechanisms) under or related to MEAs – with the expectation that this supports more implementation.¹

We propose that the UN system:

a. Works consistently towards a culture where majority decision-making is accepted in the rules of procedures for MEAs in order to facilitate more efficient decision making for strengthening existing quasi-accountability mechanisms in these agreements.

¹ For more details on these proposals and the scientific justification see Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen, S. and A. L. Dahl (in press). Options for strengthening accountability mechanisms in global environmental governance. GGIN Policy Brief Series.

- b. Gives the mandate to existing MEA accountability mechanisms to award very tangible material *rewards* for high performance/high willingness to perform. Looking beyond traditional government funds may be needed to make this attractive.
- c. Further strengthens how the UN Secretary General uses his convening power to praise and reward states taking on higher ambitions under MEAs.
- d. Explores the possibility for the UN Secretary General to appoint rapporteurs for each of the UN regions for closely related MEAs (such as the Paris Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity), with mandates similar to the human rights rapporteurs, to monitor states' policies vis-à-vis their international obligations.
- e. Explores the option to encourage countries towards allocating responsibility for the collective goals in the MEAs among themselves, for example by setting up an independent global scientific advisory council, where scientists representing all relevant disciplines including natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities as well as indigenous and local knowledge serve in their independent capacity. The council's mandate would be similar to some of the national councils established to support climate laws. Based on the formally adopted goals in MEAs and the progress assessments under them the Council would advise on allocation of, for example climate mitigation and financing responsibilities among states.
- f. Strengthens the learning outcomes of the accountability mechanisms of MEAs that have explicit facilitative mandates by drawing on existing good practice, such as creating opportunities for meaningful peer-to-peer learning particularly among states in the same region. Also enable these mechanisms (e.g. by ensuring sufficient resources) to provide required tailor-made support to individual states for their implementation challenges.
- g. <u>Re-purposes the UN Trusteeship Council</u> in order to provide better governance over the global commons (oceans, atmosphere, sea-bed, outer space and the Antarctica)
- h. Establishes an International Anti-Corruption Court;
- i. Establishes a <u>Global Environment Agency</u>, either as an upgrade of the UN Environment Program or a new stand-alone body;
- j. Establishes a <u>UN Parliamentary Assembly</u> to directly represent the world's citizens in the UN;
- k. Adds ecocide as a crime under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court;
- I. Holds a UN Charter Review Conference, based on Article 109(3) of the Charter, to consider proposals for Charter amendments to improve governance, especially in relation to reform of the UN Security Council.