NORWAY UN80 WS2: Written Inputs on Mandate Review

Norway has in the IAHWG process so far proposed:
1. A culture change on 'requests'
2. A checklist for mandates design (see Norwegian submission under 'mandate design')
3. A comprehensive and unified digital platform (see Norwegian submission under 'mandate implementation')
4. A UN System **self-assessment mechanism** as part of the review process.

Norway fully supports the Secretary-General's proposals 1-5 on the review of mandates (p. 30), proposals 1-2 (p. 37), and proposals 1-4 (p. 38), and supports the IAHWG in reaching agreement on a standard practice going forward whereby **any newly created or updated mandates must include an embedded review clause** with specified timing to undertake a meaningful review.

Building on written inputs under 'mandate implementation' towards the development of a comprehensive digital platform (and drawing on inspiration from the harmonised decision-monitoring matrix used across the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNOPS/UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women), Norway would like to make the following proposal on 'mandate review'. Norway proposes the inclusion of a **structured self-assessment mechanism** for the UN System that would enable evaluation and reporting on mandate completion status, potential overlap, and maturity for closure, in addition to regular reporting on mandate activities; such a mechanism should be embedded in any future review model.

This mechanism would support Member States in assessing whether specific mandates are ready for closure or adjustment, support evidence-based decision-making, and reinforce an impact- and results-oriented culture across the system. While the decision to close a mandate, make revisions, or continue mandates remain firmly with Member States, it is essential that the UN entities responsible for implementation first undertake a self-assessment of results and potential mandate closure. Such an approach would encourage entities to reflect on whether mandate objectives have been substantively achieved, whether the mandate remains relevant considering evolving needs and priorities, funding levels and whether it contributes to fragmentation, duplication, and potential inefficiencies. Such a process would also contribute to reinforcing an impact and results-oriented culture, where entities are encouraged not only to implement mandates, but to actively strive towards their successful completion, in line with the expectations of Member States and the effective use of resources.

UN 'Self-Assessment' mechanism as part of a Comprehensive Digital Platform
In conjunction with Norway's written inputs under 'Mandate Implementation', an integrated and comprehensive digital platform could serve as a central interface for tracking mandate implementation, allowing Member States and governing bodies to access structured and comparable information in a user-friendly format in real time. In this scenario, the platform could also incorporate the proposed **self-assessment function**, which would enable entities to periodically assess and disclose progress towards mandate completion, and readiness for closure against agreed/relevant indicators.