

Written input by DESA after third technical briefing of the IAHWG

Issue	Summary response
Mechanics of Mandate Review	
Categories of mandates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System-wide frameworks, including major global agendas adopted at conferences (e.g. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) that guide work across the UN system. • Creation of institutions, such as the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF). • Mandates directing the Secretariat to carry out certain actions, such as engaging civil society, typically embedded in broader resolutions or programmes of work. • Narrow, issue-specific mandates, often focused on reporting, where Member States lead review and modification.
Examples of best practice review clauses, model mandate text	<p>Under General Assembly resolutions 75/290A and 290B, the reviews of the Economic and Social Council and the HLPF follow a well-established and time-bound process. In resolution 72/305, the Assembly had previously decided that these reviews would be carried out together in subsequent cycles, ensuring coherence.</p> <p>Similarly, the outcome documents of major UN conferences and summits, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS), the Sevilla Commitment, the Awaza Political Declaration and the Doha Political Declaration of the Second World Summit for Social Development contain clear, time bound follow-up and review mechanisms.</p>
Consolidation, Clustering, and System-Wide Coherence	
Consolidated review	<p>The QCPR is a good example: the General Assembly provides system-wide policy guidance to the UN development system through the QCPR resolution every four years, while the ECOSOC's Operational Activities Segment (OAS) serves as the annual oversight and accountability platform, including for the Resident Coordinator system. The OAS is informed by an annual report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the QCPR resolution- issued under a dual symbol for both the GA and ECOSOC-as well as the report of the UNSDG Chair, and more recently, the System-wide Evaluation Office.</p>
Lessons learned	

ECOSOC/HLPF Ministerial Declaration	<p>One relevant practice is the use of single, consolidated outcome, as seen in the ECOSOC/HLPF ministerial declaration, negotiated annually under the auspices of ECOSOC, except for the years when there is an SDG Summit under the GA. This approach streamlines review requirements that covers the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs in relation to the annual ECOSOC/HLPF theme and the SDGs that are under in-depth review that year.</p> <p>Although negotiations can be time-intensive, this model demonstrates how regular, consolidated intergovernmental review of implementation, complemented in the HLPF by the voluntary national reviews, can reduce fragmentation and duplication.</p>
Stakeholder engagement in mandate reviews	
Stakeholder engagement in reviews of ECOSOC and HLPF	<p>Stakeholders have been engaged in the GA reviews of ECOSOC and HLPF, both through interventions in the informal meetings and a dedicated stakeholder briefing on the review convened by the co-facilitators of the process in 2024. They have also provided written inputs which were made available on the ECOSOC and HLPF review webpage at https://ecosoc.un.org/en/ecosoc-and-hlpf-reviews.</p>