

Email sent on 5 July 2013 by the co-chair France to the members of the FOC:

Dear all,

Thank you for participating in the Friend Of the Chair Group for Broader Measures of Progress

Two weeks ago, with those of us who were there, including the UNSD Secretariat, we had a brief informal meeting in Geneva, back to back with the Conference of European Statisticians of the Economic Commission for Europe. We discussed the organisation of the Group (see the minutes attached to this e-mail).

Two hard facts were stressed:

- a lot of work has already been done at the international and at the country level and good lists of indicators on broader measures of progress do already exist,
- many good results came out of the MDGs (see the reduction of poverty during the period), but it was highlighted that the connection between goals and statistical indicators should be improved.

As there is some urgency to contribute to the ongoing processes of the formulation of goals and targets, we propose that the FOC Group will concentrate during its 1st work year on improving the relationships between statisticians and the group that is currently working on setting out Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). United Nations Open Working Group (OWG).

This Open Working Group has its agenda already set out for its next four monthly meetings between November 2013 and February 2014 (see below). We could offer it to provide some statistical background in preparation of each of its meetings, starting next November. In addition the Open Working Group will hold a special seminar dedicated to monitoring and measuring, probably on 17 December 2013, to which our FOC group could prepare significant inputs. Stefan has last week met with the Hungarian ambassador, who is the co-chair of the Open Working Group and obtained the official green light, that our inputs, both in terms of statistical background notes and inputs into the special seminar in December are welcome.

Furthermore, in a parallel development at the United Nations, the Report of the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the post 2015 Development agenda (*see the weblink below to the document*) has recently been published and is currently discussed extensively. It is important at this point to analyse the statistical implications of this report

Hence, the concrete next steps for the work of the FOC group are proposed as follows:

- Your comments on the Report of the High Level Panel are kindly requested **before 20 July**, especially on the proposal regarding statistics (p.23-24) and on the capability of the statistical system to measure the proposed targets (page 30-55).
- **For 20 July** as well, we call for volunteers that will commit themselves to work on the statistical notes on the future themes to be examined by the Open Working Group. These notes should be made available according to the agenda of the OWG. The note should be short and examine questions of definition and method of computation, data sources availability at the country level, global data availability, organisations collecting these data at a global level.

Below you will also find links to the so-called issue notes that the Open Working Group has already considered. The FOC is invited to also provide statistical notes on these themes, even though priority needs to clearly be given to the themes that are still forthcoming.

To facilitate the work of the FOC the UNSD Secretariat will shortly launch a designated website with easy links to all relevant documents. The Secretariat will also initiate work on an

inventory of broader measures of progress (initial Rio+20 mandate) and present this ongoing work to the FOC group for comments and review.

Many thanks in advance for your cooperation, we are looking forward to working with you,

Best Regards,

Philippe Cuneo, Co Chair of the FOC Group
Claire Plateau, Sustainable development coordinator

Documents

1. The minutes of the informal meeting attached with this e mail
- 2- The Report of the High level Panel of Eminent Persons on the post 2015 Development agenda
<http://www.post2015hlp.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/UN-Report.pdf>
- 3- The planning and themes of the next OWG meetings
Meeting 25-27 November 2013 (FOC's Notes for OWG should be provided before the 30 September)
 - Sustainable and inclusive economic growth
 - Macroeconomic policy questions (including international trade, international financial system and external debt sustainability)
 - Infrastructure developmentMeeting 9-13 December, 2013 (FOC's Notes for the OWG should be provided before the 30 October 2013)
 - Means of implementation (science and technology, knowledge-sharing and capacity building); Global partnership for achieving sustainable development
 - Needs of countries in special situations, African countries, LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS as well as specific challenges facing the middle-income countries
 - Human rights, the right to development, global governanceMeeting 6-10 January, 2014 (FOC's Notes for the OWG should be provided before the 30 November 2013)
 - Sustainable cities and human settlements
 - Sustainable transport
 - Sustainable consumption and production (including chemicals and waste)
 - Climate change and disaster risk reductionMeeting 3-7 February, 2014 (FOC's Notes for the OWG should be provided before the 30 December 2013)
 - Oceans and seas
 - Forests
 - Biodiversity
- Promoting equality, including social equity, gender equality and women's empowerment
- 4- The TST (technical Support Team) issue briefs (FOC's Notes concerning these themes should be made available but the agenda is less tight because these themes have already been discussed in the OWG)
Health and sustainable development:
<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18300406tstissueshealth.pdf>
Population dynamics:
<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18310406tstissuespopdyn.pdf>
Education and culture:
<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18290406tstissuesedcult.pdf>
Social protection:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18320406tstissuesocprot.pdf>

Employment and decent work:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18331106tstissuesemploywork.pdf>

Water and sanitation:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1801tstissueswater.pdf>

Sustainable agriculture:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1802tstissuesagriculture.pdf>

Desertification, land degradation and drought:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1803tstissueslddd.pdf>

Food security and nutrition:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1804tstissuesfood.pdf>

Poverty eradication

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1728tstissuespoverty.pdf>

Conceptual issues

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1729tstissuesconceptual2.pdf>