




**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
2024**



Sustainable Development Goal 16

*An Expert Group Meeting in preparation for HLPF
2024: Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating
poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery
of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions*

7 May 2024

Conference Room 6, United Nations Headquarters

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| <p>10:00 – 10:15</p> | <p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA - Ms. Delphine Schantz, Director, UNODC New York Office - Ms. Sarah Lister, Head of Governance, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP |
| <p>10:15 – 11:30</p> | <p>Taking stock of progress towards SDG 16 and reflections on the SDG 16 Conference</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What areas are most critically lagging behind in SDG 16 progress and why? What new or under-utilized policies and solutions could accelerate progress and generate synergies with other Goals and targets? 2. How can we best ensure follow-up to the commitments made at the SDG Summit in September 2023? What lessons have already been learned from the high-impact initiatives launched at the Summit? <p>Moderator: Ms. Delphine Schantz, Director, UNODC New York Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Kartik Sharma, Director, International Development Law Organization (IDLO) - Ms. Margaret Williams, Program Lead, Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies, New York University - Mr. Habib Ur Rehman Mayor, Deputy General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat [online] |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Maria Isabel Aninat Sahli, Dean, Universidad Adolfo Ibanez Law School, Vice Chair of International IDEA’s Board of Advisers - Ms. Margaret Satterthwaite, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, Professor of Clinical Law at New York University School of Law - Ms. Patricia Ann Torsney, Permanent Observer to the United Nations, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | Coffee break |
| 1145 – 1300 | <p>Monitoring SDG 16</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the main challenges for monitoring progress towards SDG 16? How can national availability of data and international comparability be improved? - What is the role of non-traditional data sources in ensuring adequate monitoring? - What messages should be brought to the attention of the participants of the High-level Political Forum on sustainable development 2024 when it comes to the indicator framework of SDG 16? - What steps could countries take to ensure adequate financing and capacity development for monitoring in different areas of SDG 16? <p>Moderator: Ms. Priya Sood, SDG 16 Data, Knowledge & Advocacy, UNDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. John Romano, Director, Transparency, Accountability and Participation (TAP) Network - Ms. Ana Patricia Muñoz, Executive director, International Budget Partnership - Ms. Clare Hart, Vice-President of Montpellier Metropole [online] - Ms. Karina Ambartsoumian, Executive Director, United Stateless - Ms. Elizabeth Andersen, Executive Director, World Justice Project - Ms. Luisa Machado, Young Leader for the SDGs |
| 13:00 – 15:00 | Lunch |
| 14:00-15:00 | Optional breakout group discussion on the spotlight topic - science, technology and innovation - 15th floor of the UN Secretariat (room 1520) |

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| 15:00 – 15:30 | <p>Spotlight topic – science, technology and innovation</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can different stakeholders harness science and technology for SDG 16 progress? What are some of the most promising technological solutions and what are the main challenges associated with using them at scale and in different context? 2. What strategies can be implemented to achieve SDG 16 through inclusive, effective and efficient management of digital transformation? How can the responsible use of digital technologies be harnessed to ensure judicial advancements as well as peaceful and inclusive societies? 3. What types of safeguards would need to be in place to harness positive impacts and avoid negative impacts of digital technologies on security, justice, governance, and human rights, including rights of children and right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment? 4. What are the crucial aspects of SDG 16 to be reflected in discussions around the Global Digital Compact? <p>Moderator: Ms. Joyeeta Gupta, Professor of Environment and Development, Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Amsterdam; and Professor on Sustainability, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, Co-Chair of the United Nations Group of Ten High-level Representatives of Civil Society, Private Sector, and Scientific Community to Promote Science, Technology, and Innovation for the SDGs (10-Member-Group)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report back from the breakout group discussion - Mr. Mohammed Loutfy, Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs |
| 15:30 – 16:15 | <p>SDG 16 as a cross-cutting enabler – environmental dimension</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the key interlinkages between SDG 16 and the environmental dimension of sustainable development? 2. What approaches could be put in place to maximize synergies among SDGs 7, 13 and 16 to ensure a just and fair transition and minimize risks of increased societal fractures and political instability? What is the role of SDG 16 in informing more ambitious national climate action plans (NDCs)? 3. What can be done to ensure the safety and rights of environmental activists and to protect them from retaliation? <p>Moderator: Mr. Jamil Ahmad, Director, UNEP New York</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Rebecca Bratspies, Professor of Law (Environmental Justice), City University of New York (CUNY) |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Raymond Pilcher, President, Raven Ridge Resources, Incorporated and Chair, UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition |
| 16:15 – 17:00 | <p>SDG 16 as a cross-cutting enabler – social dimension</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the key interlinkages between SDG 16 and the social dimension of sustainable development? What win-win solutions can be scaled up and what trade-offs need to be managed? 2. Highlighting the interlinkages between SDG 16 and SDG 5 on gender equality, how can the engagement of women and girls in achieving peaceful, just and inclusive institutions be enhanced and sustained? 3. What actions can be taken to promote and enhance the role of youth-led initiatives and youth organizations and to ensure their full, equal and meaningful participation in political and civic spheres at all levels? <p>Moderator: Mr. Rio Hada, Chief of the Equality Development and Rule of Law Section, OHCHR New York Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Claudia M. Flores, Clinical Professor of Law at Yale Law School, Director of the Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, member of the OHCHR Working Group on Discrimination Against Women and Girls - Ms. Taina Bien-Aimé, Executive Director, Coalition against Trafficking in Women |
| 17:00 – 17:45 | <p>SDG 16 as a cross-cutting enabler – economic dimension</p> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the key interlinkages between SDG 16 and the economic dimension of sustainable development? What win-win solutions can be scaled up and what trade-offs need to be managed? - How can the economic toll of conflict, violence and instability be reflected in monitoring of SDG implementation and how can the evidence-base be better used for effective policy making? What actions hold the most promise to tackle bribery and corruption? <p>Moderator: Ms. Najat Maalla M'jid, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Abdul Tejan Cole, African Centre of Excellence – Access to Justice; Board Member, Transparency, Accountability and Participation Network - Mr. Thomas Abt, Founding Director, Center for the Study and Practice of Violence Reduction, University of Maryland - Mr. Juan Pablo Guerrero, Senior Governance Specialist, World Bank - Mr. Peter van Sluijs, Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) |
| 17:45 – 18:00 | Key messages from the meeting and closing |