

ROLE OF THE HLPF IN THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA -

**format, questions and outcomes of the
break-out groups**

A few thoughts and concerns

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What will we be talking about the next 20 years?

- ▣ Resolution 67/290 defines in broad terms the agenda for HLPF - 25-29 agenda points
- ▣ the home of the SDGs (19? 16? Less?)
- ▣ The integration of the three dimensions of Sustainable Development
- ▣ Has a wide ranging mandate
- ▣ Emerging issues, reviews, SD report, regional input, evidence based
- ▣ Still - the resolution is general and vague and subject to interpretation

The HLPF and SDG potential

- ▣ **The Rio Outcome Document, its 14 processes, the HLPF and the SDG dialogues are all contributing to the modernization of the UN**

A pilot period – for the time being

To what extent are we allowed to:

- ▣ Improve what we see need improving**
- ▣ Strengthen what we see need strengthening**
- ▣ Interpret what we think is unclear**

”building on the strength of CSD – paragraph 84”

Issues we need to deal with/ think about

- ▣ HLPF strengths**
- ▣ HLPF challenges**
- ▣ HLPF compared to CSD**
- ▣ HLPF and position in the UN hierarchy**
- ▣ HLPF , the GA and ECOSOC**
- ▣ HLPF and all stakeholders**
- ▣ HLPF and the SDGs**

Do we have an adequate institution?

- ▣ HLPF – a hybrid?
- ▣ Under the auspices of ECOSOC and the GA
- ▣ Its decisions – reporting to? And who/what implements?
- ▣ What does it really mean when we say the HLPF will be the home of the SDGs?
- ▣ What does its governance structure allow?
- ▣ Is there a conflict of interest and modus operandi between the HLPF, ECOSOC and the UNGA bodies?
- ▣ House rules and major groups (§15)

HLPF strengths

- ▣ **It is innovative**
- ▣ **Its governance structure will allow integration of all stakeholders, in all contexts at all levels**
- ▣ **It is transparent**
- ▣ **It is flexible and dynamic**

HLPF, points to the future

- ▣ Points in the right direction
- ▣ Is politically high level
- ▣ Is inclusive
- ▣ Is a new construct, a hybrid - ref wording: "under the auspices of"
- ▣ Focuses on science and evidence based decisions
- ▣ Will research and write "the Global Sustainable Development Report"
- ▣ Sets new governance standards

HLPF Challenges

- ❑ **It has a broad and undefined mandate**
- ❑ **It has a weak and untried structure – the hybrid/under the auspices of**
- ❑ **It lacks a steering mechanism, bureau or advisory board**
- ❑ **It does not own a secretariat**
- ❑ **It integrates major groups and NGOs in a way never done before at the UN**

Areas of tensions and conflicts

- Under the auspices of ECOSOC and UNGA
Does that bring the rules of procedure of these Charter bodies into HLPF?
- The interpretive answer is at present: NO
- The Presidents of ECOSOC and UNGA convenes HLPF, while consulting with the Bureau of ECOSOC, the UNGA Bureaux :
Can that make participation and access difficult?

Giving key words a context

Clear contexts are always needed to give sensible interpretations:

- ▣ What does access mean?
- ▣ What does intervene mean?
- ▣ What does participate mean?
- ▣ What do speaking rights in sessions imply?
- ▣ What does agenda setting mean?
- ▣ What do “emerging issues” mean?

Major groups, HLPF and ECOSOC

- ▣ Major groups and relevant stakeholders are referred to in 7 paragraphs:
- ▣ Paragraphs 8c; 13; 14; 15; 16; 22 and 24.
- ▣ Paragraph 16 is about the right to self-organise and include other groups in addition to the 9 –
- ▣ How will we integrate ALL these stakeholders at ALL levels at ALL times during the HLP session, when the tendency for ECOSOC has been to select and direct and major groups and NGOs are not allowed on the floor of ECOSOC

A strong HLPF will contribute to strengthen ECOSOC

- ▣ **With its broad mandate, ECOSOC's purview extends to over 70 per cent of the human and financial resources of the entire UN system**
- ▣ **Strong bodies working within this purview, strengthens ECOSOC**
- ▣ **An institution is only as strong as its weakest link**

” ... unless otherwise decided”

- ▣ **How do we integrate the UN system? (17, 20, 21, 22, 23): Is a revisit to the CSD task manager system warranted?**
- ▣ **Emerging issues and agenda setting - all stakeholders shall be consulted (18, 19, 20, 21, 22): how?**
- ▣ **Innovative nature and forward looking - evidence based decision making, a new methodology, continued dialogue (19,20)**
- ▣ **Is there enough time to do all this, or do we need a preparatory process as well?**

Our future, our responsibility

- ▣ **With the Rio Outcome Document, we now have the political directive to create a better future for all.**
- ▣ **We also have the means to do so**
- ▣ **Let us not try to predict what this future might look like.**
- ▣ **Let us create this future together and start now.**

- ▣ **Thank you for your attention**
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