

The OWG process

towards the post 2015 development agenda

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Basics:

„The Future We Want” - paragraph 247 and 248 on the SDGs and on the establishment of the Open Working Group (*co-chairs: Hungary, Kenya*)

OWG mandate: to submit report to UNGA 68th session incl. proposal for SDGs for consideration and appropriate action

SDGs: action oriented, concise, easy to communicate, limited in number, aspirational, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities – all 3 dimensions of sustainable development.

Goals are accompanied by targets and will be further elaborated through indicators focused on measurable outcomes.

„zero draft” of proposed sustainable development goals and related targets prepared by co-chairs and communicated to Member States on 2 June 2014 (17 SDGs = in fact 16+1 - MoI is a tool-kit)

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/3770chapeau:clean.pdf>

The process:

- Meetings of OWG in 2 phases

- Conceptualisation and Stocktaking phase:

March 2013- February 2014 (8 meetings, *water in May*)

Report with „focus areas”

- Commencing and consensus building phase to identify SDG proposals:

March –May 2014 (3 formal meetings)

2nd June 2014 - Zero Draft (formal and informal discussions):

9-11 June (general informal exchange + goals 1-7);

14-18 June - 12th OWG

next, adjusted draft expected on 30 June

only 8 formal negotiation days left : 9-11 July , 14-18 July

work to be accomplished by end of July, report presented to UNGA

- UN SG Report published by end of 2014

(OWG + financing group + technology transfer considerations)

- Intergovernmental UN negotiations (start early 2015 ?)

- Post 2015 development agenda adopted September 2015

Proposed goal 6. Water and sanitation for a sustainable world

- by 2030, provide universal access to safe and affordable drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene for all
- by 2030 provide universal access to safe and affordable sanitation and hygiene including at home, schools, health centers and refugee camps, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls
- by 2030, improve water quality by significantly reducing pollution, eliminating dumping of toxic materials, and improving wastewater management by x%, recycling and reuse by y%
- by 2030, improve water-use efficiency by x% across all sectors
- implement integrated water resources management, **including appropriate trans-boundary co-operation**
- ensure sustainable extraction and supply of fresh water, and by 2020 protect and restore ecosystems and aquifers that provide water-related services
- by 2030 decrease by x% mortality, and decrease by y% economic losses caused by natural and human-induced water-related disasters
- Provide adequate facilities and infrastructure, both built and natural, for safe drinking water and sanitation systems, for productive uses of water resources and for mitigating the impacts of water-related disasters

Lessons/Messages:

- **Water supporting actions and events in the run up to Rio and in its follow up worked out well** (e.g. *Friends of Water, regional consultation processes, 2013 IYWC, Budapest Water Summit as stocktaking event*)
Ban Ki-moon at the opening of the Budapest summit: “Water and sanitation are obviously central to our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development goals and must feature prominently in the post-2015 development agenda”
- **Chances for a dedicated water goal are high (increasing support)**
- **Keep wide interpretation of water issue, the integrated management approach**
- **Transboundary aspects need strong support to stay in – delegations to speak for it during the negotiations**