



## UN Working Group on Transitions meeting

Friday, 22 April 2016, 9:30 – 11.00 am (NYT)

### Meeting summary

---

Participants	
Co-Chairs	
Co-Chair	Oscar Fernandez-Taranco
Co-Chair	Izumi Nakamitsu
Agency	Representatives
PBSO	Henk-Jan Brinkman
UNICEF	Hamish Young
DPA	Lydia Kemunto Bosire
UNDP	Vanda Santos
UNDP	Monica Rijal
OCHA	Hansjoerg Strohmeyer
OCHA	Rodolpho Valente
FAO	Sandra Aviles
UNESCO	Ricardo de Guimaraes Pinto
UN-HABITAT	Filiep Decorte
UNFPA	Henia Dakkak
DPKO	Joya Rajadhyaksha
MTPFO	Henriette Keijzers
MPTFO	Philippe Grandet
MPTFO	Ylva Christiansson
UNWOMEN	Paivi Kannisto
UNWOMEN	Tatyana Titenova
WFP	Gina Pattugalan
World Bank	Anne-Lise Klausen
World Bank	Anna Bokina
UN-WB (Partnership Advisor)	Jago Salmon
CEB Secretariat	Kayoko Gotoh
CEB Secretariat	Silvan Scheiwiller
UNDOCO	Bradley Foerster
UNDOCO	Anja Bille Baehncke

## **World Humanitarian Summit**

The co-chairs, Izumi Nakamitsu (UNDP) and Oscar Fernandez-Taranco (PBSO), opened the meeting by highlighting the continuation of events adding to the momentum of strengthening integration across the Charter, including the CEB discussion on Liberia and the adoption of the peacebuilding resolutions on 27 April. The peacebuilding resolutions were groundbreaking and extremely comprehensive. It confirms the notion of sustaining peace, and the importance of peacebuilding as a responsibility of the whole UN system and no longer merely as a post-conflict activity. It also addresses the interlinkages with humanitarian efforts, which links well with the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS).

Turning to the WHS, Hansjoerg Stroehmeyer (OCHA) gave an overview of the current stage of the preparations with exactly four weeks to the Summit. The focus was on the core commitments, which would come out in revised versions within days. The success of the summit would lie in the commitments being made, and it was important that UN entities would stand behind the commitments and lobby for them in this crucial last month before the summit. A key priority was on the humanitarian-development divide, where it would be a major breakthrough if we manage to agree to a 'new business model', with collective outcomes to be achieved through multiyear frameworks and based on comparative advantages. Financing was another major priority. The outcome of the summit would be an overview of the commitments made. It was important to see the summit itself not as finite, but as part of a process. The post summit follow up to the commitments would be key. A SG implementation report would be released in September, and the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Summit taking place the last week of June would be the first formal Member States event to flesh out how to take the commitments made at WHS forward.

The CEB also had a discussion on the WHS at its upcoming meeting, very much in support of and in line with what was being discussed elsewhere. For the follow up to the summit and when unpacking the commitments, the role of CEB and HLCP should be further considered to see what could fall to the HLCP to help unpack. The CEB was also expected at its upcoming meeting to endorse a statement on bringing the UN system together to support conflict prevention and peacebuilding within the broader 2030 agenda.

The World Bank was actively engaged in the preparations for the WHS, and it would be participating in five of the high-level roundtables. An internal process was ongoing across the Bank on how to support the core commitments, and the thinking was very much in sync with the key priorities highlighted on the UN side. The WB was also playing a key role bringing together the multilateral development banks to support the commitments to focus on collective outcomes based on joint evidence and data, multi-year planning, and new ways of financing.

In the discussion that followed, several participants stressed the importance of coherent UN messaging for the various WHS round tables and events, with the support of the WHS secretariat and OCHA who have mapped out which agency is participating in each event. For example on peacebuilding and prevention, there were a number of events with slightly different, yet similar proposals, using different

terminologies, and PBSO was leading a process to help ensure coherence in follow-up actions and terminology.

Turning to discuss financing, MPTFO, FAO and OCHA gave an overview of the ongoing mapping exercises, where MPTFO was working with the WB on mapping of development financing instruments, OCHA and FAO were in the process of mapping humanitarian financing instruments, and OECD/DAC was mapping bilateral financing instruments.

A financing 'platform' was also being discussed. The understanding was that this would be a platform to ensure that existing resources and financing instruments would align more predictably with collective outcomes.

The WB briefly updated on the discussions around IDA18, where a 100% increase of financing going to fragile and conflict-affected situations was on the table. Different windows and modalities were being discussed, but it was too early to provide more specific information. Reference was also made to the innovative MENA financing initiative, which had demonstrated how financing could be used differently. Discussions on establishing an IBRD emergency window for MICs was also ongoing.

The preparations of and follow up to the summit, and the important next steps on operationalizing the commitments, was being discussed in a number of fora, and it would be important to ensure coherence across the various follow-up workstreams. A role could be envisaged for the UNWGT to further unpack what we mean by collective outcomes and outcome-driven planning, and possibly to support the workstream related to financing. It was suggested that the UNWGT should meet again before the WHS.

### **PCNA Review follow-up**

Co-chair Oscar Fernandez-Taranco recalled the agreements so far in follow up to the PCNA review, which included: a stronger emphasis on the pre-assessment phase including through scoping-missions; a slight revision of the methodology to help ensure lighter and more flexible PCNAs; a new name – likely to be Joint Peacebuilding and Recovery Assessments – to reflect the changing nature of the assessments and the environments in which they are conducted; the establishment of a EU-UN-WB High-Level Advisory Group (HLAG), where the UN is represented by the current co-chairs of the UNWGT, Izumi Nakamitsu and Oscar Fernandez-Taranco; and the creation of a joint EU-UN-WB virtual secretariat, for which Monica Rijal from UNDP has been designated as focal point from the UN side.

The first formal meeting of the PCNA HLAG had taken place the day before the UNWGT meeting, where CAR and Yemen had been discussed. There had been agreement, between the EU, WB and UN to move ahead with a scoping mission for CAR, whereas for Yemen it was agreed to wait for now with any further assessments given the current political situation. CAR was seen as an important test case for the new type of PCNAs following the review process.

The next step within the UN was the establishment of a task team under the UNWGT with PCNA focal points to coordinate the UN's positions in the new governance structure. A request for nomination of focal points would be sent out from UNDOCO shortly.

MPTFO made a brief remark to stress the importance of initiating the discussions on financing architecture early in the assessment process, and further informed that in follow up to the joint assessment in Ukraine, a two-window model was now finally being established.

## AoB

PBSO provided a brief update on the process of drafting UNWGT key messages on the QCPR. The messages would be fully in line with the endorsed UNDG key messages, and once approved by UNWGT members, it would be shared with the UNDG ASG Advisory Group for endorsement, and then to the full UNDG endorsement. A draft was currently being updated and would be circulated to the UNWGT in the near future and likely scheduled for discussion at its next meeting.

For the 'Review of capacities of agencies, funds and programmes to sustain peace', WFP informed that discussions were currently ongoing with potential research institutes as part of a market research process before entering the actual procurement process. ToR for the review had been developed based on the concept note previously consulted through the full UNWGT, and would be shared with the UNWGT shortly for endorsement.

Further, UNDOCO provided a brief update on the preparations for the annual informal ECOSOC Transition Event, which would take place in the morning of 27 June immediately before the opening of the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment. The theme for the event was currently being developed together with the Vice-Presidents of ECOSOC, Switzerland and Honduras, and the draft concept note would be shared with the UNWGT once agreed by the Vice Presidents of ECOSOC.

## Action Points

- *Request nominations for a new task team with PCNA focal points which would coordinate the UN's positions in the new PCNA HLAG governance structure [UNDOCO (message sent on 25 April 2016)];*
- *ToR for the 'Review of capacities of agencies, funds and programmes to sustain peace' to be circulated for endorsement before initiating procurement process [PBSO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, UNDOCO (ToR circulated on 6 May 2016)]*
- *Organize a follow up meeting ahead of the World Humanitarian Summit to further discuss preparations for the summit [Co-chairs, UNDOCO (meeting scheduled for 19 May 2016)]*
- *Circulate concept note for the annual informal ECOSOC Transition Event [UNDOCO]*