

Mandate of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to development

Modality

Regional consultation on the practical implementation of the right to development: Identifying and Promoting good practices

Geneva, 11-12 June 2018
Palais Wilson, first floor conference room

Modalities

Thank you for confirming your participation to the first Regional Consultation convened by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to development for Western European and other States and Eastern European States. The present document is to be read together with the program of work.

The consultation will aim at bringing together relevant experts and practitioners, representatives of Member States, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, regional economic commissions, the private sector, civil society, — including non-governmental organizations — communities' leaders, and independent experts.

In order to allow in-depth discussions, each session will be organised into two simultaneous round table discussions followed by a summary discussion in plenary. Each group will have a moderator and a rapporteur as well as two or three presentations to stimulate the discussions. The rapporteurs will be in charge of presenting the outcomes of group discussions in plenary sessions during which comments and suggestions would be welcomed from the floor.

We would be grateful to receive an indication of the thematic round table discussions that you are interested in joining. Participants will be placed in groups on a first come first served basis. However, noting that the program of work is structured around the process of development¹, relevant activities and experiences in various areas of intervention can be shared under any of the agenda items. Due to logistical constraints, one group will benefit from simultaneous interpretation in French and English while the other will be only in English. Therefore, we invite all participants that are not fluent in English to join thematic round tables 1 on 11 and 12 June 2018.

In order to guide the group discussions, focus questions and issues have been identified for each group discussion. We hope that these questions can help participants present some of the good practices they have observed in the course of their work but also share information on challenges and innovative ways to address them.

Guiding questions for the thematic group discussions

It is important to recall the objective of the Consultation, which are to:

- ❖ Share good practices and experiences in designing and implementing human development policies and programs that contribute to the realisation of human rights. The

¹ See summary note on the right to development

discussion will be focused on integrating human rights in development. Particular attention will be given to experiences in upholding participatory and inclusive approaches – addressing prohibited grounds of discrimination which include race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability or other status;

- ❖ Share methodologies to monitor and assess structure, processes and outcomes of said programs and policies;
- ❖ Share recurring obstacles and challenges to the effective implementation and integration of human rights in development programs; as well as successes and innovative approaches in overcoming these obstacles.

The expected outcome of the consultations is the development of **a set of practical guidelines and recommendations drawn from empirical evidence. The guidelines will serve as a tool in designing, monitoring, and assessing the structures, processes and outcomes of human rights motivated development policies.** They will also promote indicators and measurements that have proven successful in specific contexts.

In order to fulfil these objectives, we identified the following thematic focuses for the group discussions:

11 June

Thematic round table 1: A human right based approach to development policies and programme design

This group discussion will aim at addressing the following issues and questions in various fields of interventions but also underscore the existing related challenges:

- How are policies and programmes informed/priority areas of intervention identified?
- How are/can human rights impact assessment conducted in various fields of intervention?
- How to guarantee participatory and inclusive processes: a discussion on leaving no one behind with a focus on historically discriminated sections of societies including among others: women, minorities, indigenous peoples, youth, persons with disabilities etc...
- Identifying safeguards against discrimination: practical examples
- How are the SDGs integrated in policy/programme design in various areas of intervention?

Thematic round table 2: Implementing and monitoring development policies, programmes and activities

This group discussion will aim at addressing the following issues and questions in various fields of interventions but also underscore the existing related challenges:

- a. Means of implementation:
 - Leveraging domestic resources;
 - Improving development cooperation: North-South and Triangular cooperation: good practices and successful experiences;
 - Public-Private Partnerships success stories.
- b. Promoting sustainability: a discussion on building climate and environmental resilience in various areas of intervention
- c. Discussion on effective monitoring mechanisms/methodologies for ongoing development programmes/policies: ensuring participation of relevant stakeholders

12 June

Thematic round table 1: Evaluating and monitoring of development policies, programmes and projects

This group discussion will aim at addressing the following issues and questions in various fields of interventions but also underscore the existing related challenges:

- How are evaluation conducted, ensuring participation of relevant stakeholders?
- What indicators have provided effective measurements in various fields of intervention?
- What are some of the positive results observed in various areas of interventions?
- Identifying and replicating effective development policies/programmes: opportunities and challenges.

Thematic round table 2: Accountability mechanisms and access to remedies

This group discussion will aim at addressing the following issues and questions in various fields of interventions but also underscore the existing related challenges:

- Thinking of innovative ways to reduce the impact of ill governance on human development programing;
- Establishing accountability related to the right to development and economic and social rights and avenues to claim rights;
- Identifying mechanisms that have proven effective.

We look forward to fruitful discussions.
