

INTERACTIVE DISCUSSIONS
FOLLOW-UP TO ECOSOC DIALOGUE ON THE LONGER-TERM
POSITIONING OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Friday 10 June, Morning Session

SESSION IV: GOVERNANCE

The UN development system needs to be guided in a coherent, strategic and effective manner to be able to maximize the delivery of effective and efficient results for member states.

- What are the key actions without which Member States will not be able to provide system-wide leadership that is aligned and coherent across vertical [individual entities'] and horizontal [UN principal organs, such as GA and ECOSOC] lines?
- What system-wide instruments or mechanisms would better enable and strengthen strategic guidance, monitoring, reporting and review across the system?
- In addition to reviewing and addressing representation and working methods, what are key priority actions that would improve system-wide presence in the field? How to better coordinate the composition of UNCTs from the headquarters level?
- How to ensure that all entities of the UNDS abide by the QPCR?
- There are visible gaps in system-wide governance. How to address those, both at the individual entities and system-wide levels?

INTERACTIVE DISCUSSIONS FOLLOW-UP TO ECOSOC DIALOGUE ON THE LONGER-TERM POSITIONING OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Friday 10 June, Afternoon Session

SESSION V: ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The changed development landscape and increasingly diverse country capacities, needs and priorities require a rethinking of the UN's support and presence on the ground, and a shift from representational models to differentiated presence and programming arrangements models. A reduction of physical representation does not equal a reduction of UNDS engagement. Rather, it aims to provide the best support possible through joint country and joint multi-country initiatives that capitalize on the advantages of reach, access and joint resources, and relies on existing UN system capacities instead of providing that capacity only at the level of one country or one initiative. Through a more strategic deployment of human and financial resources, more people can be reached thus better supporting Member States to leave no one behind.

- Multi-country offices are one example of how the UNDS is working to adapt to this reality. Are there other ways that the system is experimenting with? Are these efforts underway on the right track? What are the gaps that persist and how can they be addressed towards scaling up?
- What changes are required to move away from a representational model by the UNDS in different country contexts? By UNDS entities? By donor countries? By programme countries?
- How to promote headquarter level consultations among funds, programmes and specialized agencies for determining the composition of UNCT? What role should the UNDG play? Is there a need to create a “nerve centre” for this purpose?
- What are new capacities needed to ensure a UN system that is able to deliver tailored interventions in an increasingly diverse development landscape? What could be incentives to ensure a flexible and mobile workforce that is able to move beyond representation to delivering joint results?
- At regional level, what should be the differentiated roles and functions between the regional commissions and the regional offices of UN Funds and Programmes, Specialized Agencies and Research and Training institutes? How can the UNDS further strengthen its collaboration and cooperation with non-UN inter-governmental entities, especially at regional and sub-regional levels?