

Realizing the Future we Want

Training series in preparation for the General Assembly's 2020 quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Programme

Module 1: The QCPR and the UN development system

Objective: This module would provide an introduction to the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), including the repositioning of the UN development system. The 2020 QCPR will guide operational activities for development over the next four years. This module will also provide some food for thought for how Member States relate the QCPR to the Decade of Action launched by Member States to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thursday 26 March 2020	
9:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00-10:15	<p><i>Welcome remarks and introduction</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the UN • Mr. Marco Suazo, Director, UNITAR New York Office
10:15-12:50	<p>MODERATOR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Neil Pierre, G77 Coordinator, Permanent Mission of Guyana to the UN <p>KEYNOTE ADDRESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reforming the United Nations development system in support of the Decade of Action</i> Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General <p>PANELISTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The Future is Now - Global Sustainable Development report 2019”: Implications for the UN development system</i> Mr. Peter Messerli, Co-chair of the Independent Group of Scientists 2019 and Co-author of the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) (By VTC) • <i>The “Decade of Action”: How can the UN development system best support the acceleration required to achieve the 2030 Agenda?</i> H.E. Ms. Lois Michele Young, Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations • <i>Introduction to the QCPR – Evolution of Member States’ guidance to the UN development system</i> Mr. Markus Reisle, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and Ms. Marion Barthelemy, Director, Office for Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UN DESA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of reform efforts to reposition the UN development system Ms. Michelle Gyles McDonnough, Director, Sustainable Development Unit, Executive Office of the Secretary-General <p>INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS</p>
12:50-13:00	Closing remarks by the Chair and by Mr. Marco Suazo, Director, UNITAR Office

Module 2: A tailored and targeted United Nations development system’s support to countries’ efforts to advance the 2030 Agenda

Tuesday 16 June 2020, 9:30am – 1:00pm

Objective: This module would target a bird’s eye view and interactive discussion of how the UN development system is responding to the guidance of Member States under the twin resolutions on the 2016 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review and the UNDS repositioning, to support the delivery of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the increasingly diverse needs, capacities and priorities of programme countries.

This session is envisaged to start with 4 presentations followed by a “Davos-style” moderated discussion, between speakers, discussants and participants from the floor and from other locations in the world. It would start with the overall direction, purpose and expectations of the UN reforms, particularly that of the UNDS required in support of the delivery of the 2030 Agenda; this would be followed by an overview of the key elements of the UNDS reform process, the relation between these elements, as well as the different levels [country, regional, global] and some thoughts on what still need to change, and how could it be reflected in decision-making processes of governing boards and resolutions by ECOSOC and the General Assembly. Two delegates, one each from North and South, would then present and discuss with one another the thinking, objectives and approaches that delegates had in mind when negotiating the 2016 QCPR. This would be followed by a presentation by UNFPA of the impact of the repositioning on the ground from their perspective, as well as the UNFPA business model of country support that has been in place for the past several years, and lessons learned from the process. Discussants will touch on achievements as well as ideas on how to address remaining challenges, from the perspectives of LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, MICs, countries in special situations as well as non-programme countries.

Participants will be invited to engage very actively throughout the session by asking questions, proposing ideas, challenging or defending various concepts and notions.

Tuesday 16 June 2020	
9:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00-10:05	<p>Welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Marco Suazo, Director, UNITAR New York Office
10:05-12:50	<p>MODERATOR: Mr. Jens Wandel, UN Under Secretary-General, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Reform</p> <p>PANELISTS:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the UN Reforms – where we are and where we are going Mr. Jens Wandel, UN Under Secretary-General, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Reform • Key elements of the UNDS reform, and the relationship between the parts: what has changed and what is still needed? Mr. Robert Piper, Assistant Secretary-General, and Director, UN Development Cooperation Office • The 2016 QCPR: what were the objectives and approaches from the point of view of delegates who negotiated the resolution, and what have we learned? Ms. Marguerite Sebastian Mr. Casper Stenger • The impact of the UN reform for UN agencies, funds and programmes: business models for country support Mr. Ramiz Alakbarov, Deputy Executive Director a.i., UNFPA <p>FOLLOWED BY : Interactive Dialogue (Davos-style)</p> <p>DISCUSSANTS: <i>Perspectives from different country groups</i> Representative of a LDC or LLDC Representative of Like-Minded Group of Countries Supporters of MICs Representative of High Income programme country Representative of non-programme country from WEOG</p> <p>Questions and Answers</p>
12:45-13:00	Closing remarks by Moderator

Module 3: Funding UN operational activities for development and Financing the SDGs
Tuesday 2 July 2020, 9:45am – 1:00pm

Objective: This module will present an overview of the [funding](#) of the UN’s operational activities for development, including current trends and issues, as well as progress and challenges on the implementation of related mandates. The session will review the [Funding Compact](#)’s objectives and key elements, which emphasizes greater transparency and accountability on the part of the system in exchange for higher quality and more predictable resources, and [recent progress on the Compact’s indicators](#), and also delve into the subject of efficiencies that were part of the repositioning commitments. As funding the UN system is one sub-set of the larger discussion on financing for development, an exchange of views will be promoted on the role of the UN development system in terms of supporting countries to finance the SDGs. A discussion will follow between panellists and participants, led by the moderator.

Thursday 2 July 2020	
9:30 - 10:00	Registration

10:00-10:05	Welcome remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Marco Suazo, Director, UNITAR New York Office
10:05-12:50	MODERATOR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Barbara Adams, Senior Policy Analyst, Global Policy Forum PANELISTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Financing the SDGs: the role of RCs and UNCTs</i> Mr. Elliott Harris, UN Chief Economist, Assistant Secretary-General, UN DESA • <i>Latest trends and key issues in system-wide funding</i> Ms. Zina Mounla, Chief, Operational Activities Policy Branch, UN DESA • <i>The Funding Compact: Incentivizing a change in mindset towards increased transparency, accountability and joint results</i> Mr. Martijn Engels, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations • <i>Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of business operation: Issues, commitments and next steps</i> Mr. Lars Tushuizen, Chief, Country Business Strategy Branch, UN DCO Discussants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Ulrika Richardson, Development Coordinator, Kosovo (UNSCR 1244) • Ms. Silke Weinlich, Senior Researcher, German Development Institute • Mr. Shaikh Moniruzzaman, Consultant, World Bank Questions and Answers
12:50-13:00	Closing remarks by the Moderator

Module 4: Looking forward to the 2020 QCPR Thursday 17 September 2020

Objective:

The final module of the UNITAR QCPR Training Series for Delegates will include a “refresher” with remarks from the DESA USG on the QCPR and highlights of the 2020 ECOSOC operational activities segment by its Chair. It will also feature a recap of key discussions held during previous modules, together with a dialogue on the overall direction and potential key elements of the 2020 QCPR. This will be followed by reflections on how to bolster the system’s support with policy options and technical advice, including on climate change, and how to reinforce a whole-of-system response. Finally, following information shared by the drafter and facilitator of the 2020 QCPR, an open discussion will be held on possible topics for the next QCPR.

Thursday 17 September	
9:30-10:00	Registration

10:00-10:05	Welcome remarks by Mr. Marco Suazo , Director, UNITAR New York Office
10:05-10:10	Introduction of the session by the moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Ronaldo Amaral, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations
10:10-10:20	Keynote remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General, UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs
10:20-10:30	Highlights of Chair’s Summary of ECOSOC Operational Activities segment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ H.E. Juan Sandoval Mendiola, ECOSOC Vice-President for the Operational Activities for Development Segment
10:30-11:05	Recap and Davos-style dialogue on overall direction and potential key elements of the QCPR 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Neil Pierre, G77 Coordinator, Permanent Mission of Guyana to the UN ▪ Ms. Barbara Adams, Senior Policy Analyst, Global Policy Forum ▪ Mr. Chris Stokes, Senior Advisor to the Director, UN Development Coordination Office <p><i>Discussion to follow</i></p>
11:05-12:15	Climate change action in the new Cooperation Frameworks: what collaboration between the UNDS and International Financial Institutions? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Selwin Hart, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Climate Action, and Assistant Secretary-General for the Climate Action Team <p>Maximizing UNDS impact in the Decade of Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Haoliang Xu, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, UNDP <p>Reinforcing a whole-of-system response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Charles Katende, Chief, Policy, Strategic Information and Planning Branch, United Nations Population Fund ▪ Ms. Jessica Faieta, Resident Coordinator a.i., Colombia <p><i>Discussion to follow</i></p>
12:15-12:45	Next steps on the 2020 QCPR consultations and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Pablo Soriano, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations ▪ Mr. Markus Reisle, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations and 2020 QCPR Resolution facilitator <p><i>Discussion to follow</i></p>
12:45-13:00	Closing remarks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ms. Christine Schneeberger, Minister, Head of the Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Affairs Team, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations▪ Mr. Marco Suazo, Director, UNITAR New York Office
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