

# National Councils for Sustainable Development and Other Similar Multi-Stakeholder Platforms: Exploring Their Role in Reviewing and Being an Implementation Agent for the 2030 Agenda

**A Pre-HLPF Workshop on 8 July 2019 - UN HQ, New York**

The United Nations, New York, NY., **Conference Room E** (see map attached)

Organized by Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future for the German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE), co-sponsored by the United Nations Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development – UNDESA, and in cooperation with the Friends of Governance for Sustainable Development

Time	Session
9:00-9:20	<p><b>SESSION 1</b></p> <p><b>Welcoming remarks:</b></p> <p><b>Charles Nouhan</b>, Chairman, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future</p> <p><b>Marion Barthélemy</b>, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UNDESA</p> <p><b>Expectations from the workshop:</b></p> <p><b>Günther Bachmann</b>, Secretary-General, German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE)</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Charles Nouhan</p>
9:20-9:45	<p><b>SESSION 2</b></p> <p><b>Setting the Scene: The current state of National Councils and similar multi-stakeholder platforms and their role in implementing the 2030 Agenda</b></p> <p><b>Ingeborg Niestroy</b>, Senior Fellow, The Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies</p> <p><b>Birgitte Bryld</b>, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Sustainable Development Goals</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Charles Nouhan, with an introduction to Session 2a.</p>
9:45-10:45	<p><b>SESSION 2a</b></p> <p><b>Roundtable open discussion sessions with:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>national experiences with national multi-stakeholder platforms, their mandates and roles in national policy frameworks (governance/SD architecture), their work modalities, their impact and results;</i></li> <li><i>best practice experiences; such as reporting tools, policies and the Peer Review concept.</i></li> </ul>

	<p>Participants will break off into two or more groups to share reflections on the workshop’s core proposition: Establishing peer learning and sharing of experiences of National SD Councils and similar multi-stakeholder bodies.</p> <p>Groups will include Member State delegates and other participants, with the support of resource persons from Stakeholder Forum: Felix Dodds, Elira Karaja, Jan Gustav Strandenaes, and Ruben Zondervan.</p> <p><b>Group 1:</b> Moderator/Rapporteur - <b>Cristina Maria Alina Popescu</b>, Diplomatic Counsellor, Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations</p> <p><b>Group 2:</b> Moderator/Rapporteur - <b>Liisa Rohweder</b>, Secretary General WWF-Finland, and Stakeholder Member of Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development</p> <p><b>Group 3:</b> Moderator/Rapporteur - <b>Park Chull-joo</b>, Ambassador, Deputy-Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations</p>
10:45-11:00	<b>Coffee, tea &amp; comfort break (behind the Vienna Café)</b>
11:00-11:30	<p><b>SESSION 2b</b></p> <p>The rapporteurs will report back on 4 or 5 of their group’s reflections and expectations.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Felix Dodds, Adjunct Professor, University of North Carolina</p>
11:30-1:00	<p><b>SESSION 3</b></p> <p><b>With the help of NCSDs and other similar multi-stakeholder platforms, how can governments develop and deliver their national sustainable development strategies?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In serving the purpose for government, how can councils and other similar get the public involved?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can they address private sector parties?</i></li> <li>• <i>Can they reduce costs by taking advantage of experiences and tools (reporting tools, low budget approaches)?</i></li> <li>• <i>Are councils making governing easier/more effective, or are they adding problems?</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Examples of how this has been or might be accomplished from:</b></p> <p><b>Günther Bachmann</b>, Secretary-General, the German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE)</p> <p><b>Pia Björkbacka</b>, Adviser for International Affairs, Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions &amp; Stakeholder Member of Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development</p> <p><b>Carolina Acosta Diaz</b>, Director of Economic, Social and Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Colombia</p> <p><b>Sara Hamouda</b>, SDGs &amp; Agenda 2063 Expert, African Peer Review Mechanism Continental Secretariat, South Africa - <b>by video link</b></p>

	<p>Sara Fyson, Effective Institutions Platform <u>or</u> Ernesto Soria Morales, Policy Coherence for Development Unit, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD, <b>by video link</b></p> <p>Laurel Patterson, Team Leader a.i. SDG Integration, UNDP</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Michiel de Vries, Network Coordinator of the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils (EEAC)</p> <p><b>Respondent:</b> Mandeep Tiwana, Chief Programs Officer at CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation</p>
1:00-2:15	Lunch
2:15-3:45	<p><b>Session 4</b></p> <p><b>The role of NCSDs and other similar multi-stakeholder platforms in Financing for Sustainable Development: This session will look at key Means of Implementation issues from the 2030 Agenda and Addis Ababa Action Agenda.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What role could national and subnational development banks play in cooperation with NCSD?</i></li> <li>• <i>What is the role of Multi-stakeholder Partnerships and NCSDs?</i></li> <li>• <i>What is the role of national industry coalitions to deliver the SDGs, and how they might engage with national Platforms?</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Presentations by:</b></p> <p><b>Jorge Fernandez-Quintela</b>, Delegate of the Basque Country to the United States: Financing to promote the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030: The Basque Government Sustainability Bond</p> <p><b>Rik F. van Hemmen</b>, President and Senior Partner, Martin, Ottaway, Van Hemmen &amp; Dolan, Inc., on the role of technology</p> <p><b>Felipe Morgado</b>, Senior Manager, Government Relations UN Global Compact, on the industry perspective</p> <p><b>Francesca Perucci</b>, Assistant Director, Statistics Division the United Nations on using the data revolution to achieve the SDGs</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Makwe Samuel Victor, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations</p> <p><b>Respondent:</b> Gisele Fernández Ludlow, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Economic and Social Affairs, Mexico</p>
3:45-4:00	Coffee, tea & comfort break (behind the Vienna Café)



4:00-5:00	<p><b>Session 5</b></p> <p>There are growing concerns that progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is not being adequately informed by all levels of society - particularly those stakeholders most affected by environmental degradation and resulting in societal changes.</p> <p><i>Can a Global Network of National Councils for Sustainable Development and Other Similar Multi-Stakeholder Platforms be an effective mechanism to better inform the 2030 Agenda process, and its follow-up and review mechanism, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, including the Voluntary National Review process as:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A facilitator of regular and meaningful communication between councils at all levels;</i></li> <li>• <i>As a platform to proactively share best practice - and also what has not worked;</i></li> <li>• <i>As a mechanism to institutionalize engagement between governments and stakeholders; and</i></li> <li>• <i>As a provider of a mentoring component by a coalition of successful and durable councils and similar platforms.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Roundtable discussion with short insights from:</b></p> <p><b>Marianne Beisheim</b>, Senior Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)</p> <p><b>Irena Zubcevic</b>, Chief of Intergovernmental Policy and Review Branch of Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UNDESA.</p> <p><b><u>Moderator:</u> Jan Gustav Strandenaes</b>, Director, Stakeholder Forum</p> <p><b>Respondent following the discussion: Charles Nouhan</b>, Chairman, Stakeholder Forum</p>
5:00 - 5:10	<p><b>Insights from Thailand and the office of the PGA:</b></p> <p><b>Thanavon Pamaranon</b>, Adviser, Office of the President of the General Assembly</p>
5:10 - 5:30	<p><b>Closing dialogue on the way forward and next steps between:</b></p> <p><b>Marion Barthélemy</b>, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UNDESA; and</p> <p><b>Ruben Zondervan</b>: Executive Director, Stakeholder Forum</p> <p><b><u>Moderator:</u> David Horan</b>, Research fellow: Sustainable Development Solutions Network, University College Dublin and Columbia University, NY</p>