



The Rio+20 Outcome Document: Implications for Major Groups

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UNEP Regional Consultative Meeting with Major Groups and Stakeholders in
the Africa Region

8 September 2012, Arusha, Tanzania



1. Major Groups in the Outcome Document

90 references to all major groups

Role in sustainable development

70 references to topics/issues

Human rights

Public participation

Access to information Women's rights

Equity

Social inclusion

Employment

677 contributions by November 2011

493 submissions by MGS

73% from MGS / 15% from Member states



2. Major Groups and the Outcome Document: From despair to ... hope?

Criticism

lack of moral purpose

lack of urgency

non-binding nature

regression on a number of universally agreed principles

process and spirit of the negotiations

3. The main themes of the Conference in the Outcome Document

Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

IFSD/IEG

Universal membership

Enhanced participation of MGS

Transparency

Best practices

Model UN organization



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4. Key entry points for MGS

Sustainable Development Goals

High Level Political Forum

Finance

Technology

10 YFP

Ombudsperson for future generations

Oceans

Beyond GDP



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4.1. Sustainable Development Goals

Para 248: *“We resolve to establish an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on SDGs that is open to all stakeholders, with a view to developing global sustainable development goals to be agreed by the General Assembly....”*

- Open working group to be constituted by the 67th session (Sept 2012) of the GA
- 30 representatives, nominated by Member States from the 5 UN regional groups
- Report to the 68th session of the GA (Sept – Dec 2013)

MGS issues:

Fair

representation

equitable

perspectives

balanced

experience

geographic
diversity



4.2. High level political forum

Para 84: *“We decide to establish a universal intergovernmental high level political forum, building on the strengths, experiences, resources and inclusive participation modalities of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and subsequently replacing the Commission ...”*

Para. 86: *“We decide to launch an intergovernmental and open, transparent and inclusive negotiation process under the General Assembly to define the high level forum’s format and organizational aspects with the aim of convening the first high level forum at the beginning of the 68th session of the GA.”*

- First session in September 2013

MGS issues:

Authority of the Forum Engagement and participation model
Mandate



4.3. Finance

Para. 255: *“establish an intergovernmental process under the auspices of the General Assembly, with technical support from the United Nations system and in open and broad consultation with relevant international and regional financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders.”*

Para. 256: *“An intergovernmental committee, comprising 30 experts nominated by regional groups, with equitable geographical representation, will implement this process, concluding its work by 2014.”*

- Report on options for effective sustainable development financing by 2014

MGS issues:

assess financing needs

effectiveness

consistency

synergies

instruments

frameworks



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4.4. Technology

Para 273: *“We request relevant United Nations agencies to identify options for a facilitation mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies by, inter alia, assessing the technology needs of developing countries, options to address those needs and capacity-building.”*

- Facilitation mechanism
- Recommendations to the SG by 67th session of the General Assembly (Sept 2012)

4.5. 10-year Framework of Programmes

Para 226: *“We adopt the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, as contained in document A/CONF.216/5, and highlight that the programmes included in the 10-year framework are voluntary.”*

- General Assembly to designate a Member State body at its 67th session (Sept 2012) to take any necessary steps to fully operationalize the framework

MGS issues:

Non binding nature



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4.6. Ombudsperson for future generations

Para 86: *“(...) We will also consider the need for promoting intergenerational solidarity for the achievement of sustainable development, taking into account the needs of future generations, including by inviting the Secretary-General to present a report on this issue.”*

- Report to be provided by the Secretary General

4.7. Oceans

Para. 162: *“...Building on the work of the ad hoc working group and before the end of the 69th session of the General Assembly (Sept 2014) we commit to address, on an urgent basis, the issue of the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, including by taking a decision on the development of an international instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.”*

4.8. Beyond GDP

Para. 38: *“We recognize the need for broader measures of progress to complement GDP in order to better inform policy decisions, and in this regard, we request the UN Statistical Commission, in consultation with relevant UN system entities and other relevant organizations, to launch a programme of work in this area building on existing initiatives.”*

5. Way Forward: linking with global processes

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Inter-governmental Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), September 2012
- Lack of a proposed process and associated mechanisms (both formal and informal) to engage stakeholders
- Proposal: Establish a multi-stakeholder advisory group to work with the OWG on developing the SDGs

Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Growing concern about the planned intergovernmental consultative process led by UNDP
- High-level Panel on Post-2015 Development Agenda planning to organize outreach to MGS

6. Way Forward: UNEP Governing Council and GMGSF

Global consultation on Post Rio+20

October 2012

NY

Entry points

FES Regional Meeting for Africa

Green economy

Rio+20 follow-up

Global Major Group and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF)

Governing Council/GMEF

Implementation of Rio+20 decision (para. 88)

Universal membership

Paper on engaging MGS in a reformed UNEP

RCM statements



Thank you for your attention!



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