

QCPR Retreat: Summary (INF 5)

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 6 attachments (646 KB)

210205 Talking points multidimensional poverty and QCPR.docx; Retreat on 2020 QCPR and 2021 Reporting 5 Feb 2021 _RCNYO Sum. (INF-5).docx; 1. QCPR2020-Retreat-Docs-CN-ForDistribution-26Jan2021 1.pdf; 2. QCPR2020-Retreat-Docs-RES_RefBySubject_forParticipants_Ver2-AsShared-25Jan2021.docx; 3. QCPR2020-Retreat-Docs-TimelineGraphic-Final-29Jan2021.pdf; 4. QCPR2020-Retreat-Docs-Calendar2021-MajorEventsOfRelevanceToOAD-Final-27Jan2021.pdf;

Dear ESs,

As communicated earlier, on 5 February, the Coordinator (as representative of RegComs in the UNSDG Core Group) participated in the QCPR Principals' Retreat convened by USG/DESA under the leadership of the DSG/UNSDG Chair. I attended the retreat as Plus One. **Attached is the intervention made by the Coordinator** o/b the ReCs on the issue of "Beyond GDP: Multi-dimensional Poverty", as well as **RCNYO Summary** of relevant interventions made by DSG, principals and other speakers during the retreat. Rola may wish to kindly complement my briefing below as she deems fit. I am also attaching for ease of reference all the background documentation circulated for the retreat.

The retreat was composed of two parts: The first part, at principals' level, was opened by the DSG who engaged in a discussion with Principals on the overall direction and critical actions that the UNSDG would need to put in motion in the short and longer term to respond to MSs' expectations expressed in the new QCPR and to continue to adapt to the broader transformations needed to accompany a rethinking of multilateral action. In her remarks, she mentioned that the regional review will have its test in March (*presumably referring to upcoming RCP*). She also recognized the Central America Programme [*the Comprehensive Development Plan led by ECLAC*] as a good example of demonstrating the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding nexus. She suggested the UN System needs to reflect on what are the hindrances to data disaggregation and its constraints in leveraging and using its own data.

Rola suggested that challenging issues during QCPR negotiations, including HR, be addressed through a development lens as a means to expand the civic space. She stressed the need for the UNS to invest in its communication strategies and work to reach and shape the public narrative more effectively. She highlighted the dual challenges of aging and youth facing developing countries which entail not only looking at social protection but also its sustainability and the link to public policies including fiscal policies and addressing inequality. She stressed the criticality of data and making it open to the public.

The second part was organized around a few sessions to address some novel aspects of QCPR and support integrated approaches, namely: Session III: Supporting an inclusive and sustainable recovery from COVID-19; Session IV: Leaving no one behind in practice; and Session V: Deepening efforts on the repositioning of the UNDS ahead of the review of the RC system.

The Coordinator addressed Session IV on the issue of “Beyond GDP: Multi-dimensional poverty” with Mourad Wahba, Assistant Administrator/UNDP. Rola advocated the need to move beyond GDP and address inequality and exclusion through the non-income facets of poverty and inequality that take into account social and environmental factors; and suggested possible roles for the UNS at the global, regional and national levels, including to standardize methodologies for defining and computing MDPIs. UNDP emphasized the need for a multi-vulnerability index.

During the discussions in Part II, **on FfD**, Mourad Wahba/UNDP advocated for the RegComs to join the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) and acknowledged it can benefit from improvements and more inclusion. Robert Piper/DCO stated that INFF seems to be so far mainly a DESA-UNDP project with no apparent traction, understanding of scope, or buy in by other entities including the specialized agencies. He questioned its value proposition in bringing on board the IFIs. Navid Hanif/DESA argued that it’s too early to judge INFF and evoked its technical collective design through the IATF on FfD. I mentioned that the RegComs welcome joining upcoming planned roll out of INFF while the latter could benefit from addressing broader policy and scope clarifications raised by Piper.

On reform, Robert Piper stated that the regional reform including its KMH are key to map the UNDS capacities and support to UNCTs. He affirmed that knowledge networks will reside at the regional level (regionally adapted with a level of interoperability) with the hope that a second phase will bring the 100,000 UN staff residing at country level to the 8,000 UN staff residing at regional level. He reiterated his conviction that this is the most important element of the regional reform. Michelle Gyles/EOSG stressed the importance of the management reform to accompany the development reform to achieve functional integration.

The outcome of the retreat will be a summary of the discussions by DESA to feed into the UNSDG and help inform the SG report as well as further action by the system and its entities.

With best regards,

AN

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