Organization of the GOVERNING COUNCIL

Presented by the Task Force Team 4

Fifth Meeting of the Open-ended Consultative Group

28 February 2012
Objective

- Overall objective of the Governance Review Process: to apply the principles of good governance to ensure transparency and accountability through clearly defined roles and responsibilities that promote efficient use of resources to achieve effective delivery of high quality results in accordance with established goals and clear objectives

- TFT 4’s objective: Revitalisation of the Governing Council (focusing on the existing model)
Mandate

• Validation of Challenges regarding “Organisation of the Governing Council” as stated in HSP/GC/23/INF/7

• Identification of quick-wins as well as long-term solutions to address those Challenges

• Examination of Alternative Governance Structures
Members

Mr. Joe Murphy (Chair)  PR, USA
Ms. Diana Park (Co-Chair) Deputy Secretary to GC
Ms. Ester Borras Andrei  DPR, Spain
Ms. Sibongile Mabasa  DPR, S. Africa
Mr. Arthit Prasartkul  2nd Secretary, Thailand
Ms. Marine Collignon  2nd Secretary, France
Mr. Saidou N’Dow  Legal Officer
Working Method

- Held 6 Meetings
- Circulated 10 Questions on the participation of member States in GC and WUF and Analyzed Responses (20 responses)
- Received Presentations on and Discussed the following topics:
  - UNACLA (United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities) and Engagement of Local Authorities (by T. Melin)
  - Engagement of Private Sector (by C. Auclair)
  - Review on the Rules of Procedures of GC (by S. N’Dow)
  - Engagement of non-state stakeholders in Governance Discussions / Decision-making (by E. Borras on UNEP and UN Women / by A. Prasartkul on UNCSD and other UN entities)
  - Timely decision-making (by P. Taylor)
  - Revision of GC Rules of Procedure (by C. Mensah)
- Made Observations on the Current Situation and Identified Actions for Consideration
Issues of Discussion

• Participation and Composition of GC Membership
• Linkage between GC and other Meetings such as WUF and Regional Ministerial Conferences
• Procedures and Organisation of GC
• Timeliness of Decision-making + Relationship between GC and its Inter-sessional Body, CPR
Observations

• Need to Consider how to Improve Engagement of Non-state Stakeholders to Enrich GC
• Lack of Institutional Mechanism to Reflect Discussion /Conclusions of WUF and to Impact UN-Habitat’s Activities (recognizing the need to avoid changing the nature of WUF as non-legislative open forum)
• Some Deficiencies Identified in the GC Rules of Procedures
• Disjuncture between GC and CPR membership Impeding Delegation of Authority to CPR by GC, Impacting CPR’s Ability to Function as its Inter-Sessional Body
ACTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION
Participation of non-state Stakeholders

- Consideration of the Establishment of Global Stakeholders’ Forum in conjunction with the Governing Council Sessions (Accountability, Transparency, Effectiveness)
- Accreditation of Private Sector Participants in GC (Transparency)
GC-WUF

• Review Conclusions Drawn from WUF through CPR Working Group or Open-ended Contact Group to Promote their Implementation and Incorporation into UN-Habitat’s Activities (Accountability, Transparency, Effectiveness, Efficiency)

• Report on WUF to GC to be more Action-oriented (Effectiveness, Efficiency)
Rules of Procedure

- Deficiencies to be Addressed (*Accountability, Transparency, Effectiveness, Efficiency*)
  - Rule 3 (Alteration of Date of the GC): Inclusion of “duration” to allow maximum flexibility.
  - Rule 4 (Venue): Change of venue could be allowed to cover possible contingencies.
  - Rule 17 (Election): In case of vacancies, affected regional groups submit nominations to the GC President, who will inform the GC members and initiate election without vote.
  - Rule 22 (CPR): Mandates of CPR, as stipulated in the GA Resolution 32/162, could be incorporated.
  - Rule 45(?) (Submission of proposals and substantive amendments): i) Draft Resolutions proposed by member States to be submitted 4 weeks in advance; ii) Sec to circulate copies of DRs (in 6 UN languages) 2 weeks in advance; iii) Waver clause will remain. (GC Resolution 20/21)
  - Rule 61-67 (Participation of non-members of the GC): Additional paragraph on Private Sector Partners’ participation in linking their accreditation with Global Compact, most likely to be placed after Rule 66.
Rules of Procedure (cont’d)

• Quick-wins
  • Incorporating the Resolution 20/21 (Organisation and themes for future sessions of the GC) and its Appendix into the current document entitled Rules of Procedure (ROP) and revising the introduction part of that document to reflect the change (Transparency, Effectiveness, Efficiency)
  • Suggest that the GC President encourage member States to submit DRs well in advance of the GC as reflected in the Resolution 20/21 (Transparency, Effectiveness, Efficiency)
  • Strengthening the function and work of GC Bureau during the Inter-sessional period (Accountability, Transparency, Effectiveness, Efficiency)
GC-CPR

- Further discussion required to address “disjuncture” of the GC-CPR membership e.g. universal membership of GC

- Mandate of the CPR could be stipulated in the GC Rules of Procedure
Thank you for your attention!