TAP Network Conference Call

February 10, 2016

Present:	Ms. Nathalie Bernasconi, IISD
	Ms. Fiona Bradley, IFLA
	Ms. Nicole Cardinal, Save the Children
	Mr. Peter Chapman, Open Society Foundations
	Ms. Shruti Chopra, Nonviolence International
	Ms. Stacey Cram, Namati
	Ms. Cristina Diez, International Movement ATD Fourth World
	Ms. Kate Donald, Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR)
	Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, WFUNA
	Ms. Sarah Haynes, Restless Development
	Mr. Ryan Kaminski, UNA-USA
	Mr. Liam Kincaid, TAP Network Deputy-Coordinator
	Ms. Cordelia Lonsdale, Development Initiatives
	Ms. Anna Moller-Loswick, Saferworld
	Ms. Cassia Moraes, CIVICUS
	Mr. Bill Orme, Global Forum for Media Development
	Ms. Deborah Rogers, Initiative for Equality
	Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator
	Ms. Johannes Tonn, Global Integrity
	Ms. Mari Ullmann, WFUNA
Next meeting:	tbc

OUTCOMES FROM CALL:

Follow-Up Actions:
- TAP Coordinators to send out minutes of conference call.
- TAP Coordinators to send 2016 Logframe to TAP Network members.

MEETING MINUTES

Key Issues Addressed:

1.1. Update on TAP Network funding for 2016
- Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, WFUNA:
    - Stated the TAP Network Steering Committee submitted a grant proposal for 2016 for the TAP Network to Open Society Foundations, Hewlett Foundation and Omidyar Network.
    - This proposal was informed by comments received from TAP Network members during the meeting in New York held Thursday, 24 September 2015 and the TAP Network Survey.
    - Open Society Foundations and Hewlett Foundation have agreed to continue funding the TAP Network for 2016 but we are still awaiting an official response from the Omidyar Network.
    - However, if the Network does not receive the final grant the deliverables/outcomes for 2016 will have to be adjusted.
    - Noted WFUNA will be submitting an independent evaluation report to the donors and TAP Network once it is complete.
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator:
    - Highlighted the main outcomes for the TAP Network in 2016:
        - Outcome 1. Agreement of robust review and monitoring mechanism for the SDGs, with a focus on transparency, accountability and citizen participation at the global and national levels
        - Outcome 2. Help ensure agreement on clear and strong indicators for Goal 16 at the global and national levels
        - Outcome 3. Increased role of civil society and citizen-generated data as key non-official data sources for measurement and monitoring of the SDGs.
        - Outcome 4. Develop capacity building tools and advocacy programmes to support engagement of civil society stakeholders in monitoring and accountability for the SDGs at the global, national and local levels

1.2. Intel on SG Report and Follow-up and Review and next steps
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator:
    - Noted the SG Report is repeating the position of Member States on follow-up and review.
    - Noted a big element of the SG Report is on national review which included a template for Member States to consider for their national reporting to the HLPF each year.
    - Encourage by the mention of civil society engagement at the national level in this reporting template. However, we will have to continue to advocate for civil society engagement if we want to maintain this language.

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- o Key questions that need to be addressed are:
  - ▪ How regional and thematic reviews will be conducted?
  - ▪ How outcomes of other forums will be integrated into the HLPF?
  - ▪ What are the outcomes of the HLPF and how these outcome will be follow-up by Member States and the UN system?
- o Section 6 of the SG Report provide recommended language for Member States to consider around follow-up and review going forward.
- o Noted this could be interpreted as a zero draft to be taken over by Member States or they could come into the negotiations with a new draft.
- o Noted we will have to wait until the PGA start negotiations and present the text for us to respond.
- o Highlighted during the "PGA Informal exchange of views UNSG report follow-up review 2030 Agenda" Friday, 5 February 2016 it was noted the PGA cannot start negotiations until the SG Report is translated into all six official UN languages.
- o Noted during the PGA informal exchange we heard varies views from Member States with the G77 supporting a negotiated process on the way forward for follow-up and review while the EU did not support negotiations.
- o However, based on conversations with colleagues around the UN system a negotiated process is inevitable.
- o Noted the PGA suggested a way forward by having negotiations on urgent issues between now and the HLPF in 2016 such as on themes, stakeholder engagement, how national reviews will be conducted and prepared. In the longer term, Member Stats could continue negotiations on other issues relating to follow-up and review.
- o Emphasized these negotiations represent an opportunity for us to engage in for follow-up and review.
- o Another opportunity will be negotiations on the revitalization of the UNGA, particularly the revitalization of the 2nd Committee.
- o Noted one of the recommendation of the SG Report, *"the UNGA main committees would translate the findings and broad political guidance of the HLPF into more detailed high-level guidance on the issues on the UNGA agenda, including the specific major UN international conferences and summits the UNGA follows."* This represent a challenge for us because there are no modalities for civil society engagement in the UNGA and the main committees.
- o Stressed we will need to push Member States to open up space for civil society engagement for us to engage in this UNGA process.
- Ms. Nathalie Bernasconi, IISD asked whether there was a timeline the PGA negotiations.

- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator stated the PGA has not provided a timeline for negotiations, and likely would not start until after SG report was interpreted into six official UN languages.
- Ms. Anna Moller-Loswick, Saferworld asked for clarification on which UNGA committees would follow-up on the outcomes of the HLPF.
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator noted the answer to this question will be left to the negotiations on how the UNGA will follow-up to the outcomes of the HLPF. However, we speculate the 2nd and 3rd Committee of the UNGA would take a leading role.
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator recommended for next steps we take key points from TAP Network Review & Accountability Position Paper and update it around concreate recommendations for follow-up and review at the HLPF in anticipation for the upcoming negotiations.
- Ms. Anna Moller-Loswick, Saferworld asked what kind of inputs from members of the TAP Network can be provided, especially since these upcoming negotiations are a very technical process.
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator suggested establishing a working group of technical experts on follow-up and review to provide a zero draft. In a couple of consequent rounds of consultations, members can comment and make edits.
- Ms. Anna Moller-Loswick, Saferworld recommended a background document for members containing key messages/questions on follow-up and review.
- Ms. Nicole Cardinal, Save the Children volunteered to be a part of the working group.
- Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, WFUNA supported the creation of a small working group of technical experts to provide a zero draft to make comments/edits and drafting a background document for members.
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator stated the Coordinators will setup the drafting group to provide an initial zero draft. In addition, will provide a background document on key issues and stakeholder mapping.
- Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, WFUNA noted members who which to be a part of the drafting group can send an email to the John Romano, Coordinator of the TAP Network at romano@wfuna.org.

1.3.   Intel on SDG Indicators Process and next steps
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator:
    - Noted the Report of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators has been released.
    - Noted there might be an updated list of indicators released in February 2016.
    - Noted intelligence suggest members of IAEG-SDGs were prompted to vote on which "grey" indicators to take forward.
    - Noted the steps for the adoption of the SDGs indicator framework:

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- - UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) will review and agree on the "Report of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators" at the 47th Session of the UNSC.
    - Once adopted by the UNSC, they will submit the report to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN General Assembly (UNGA) for adoption.
  - Underlined it is not clear how Member States, NSOs and UNSC will continue work on the indicators since this is an unfinished product.
  - Noted at the moment the 47th Session of the UNSC allocated only one hour dedicated to Agenda item 3(a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.
  - Based on conversations, there seems to be two options:
    1. UNSC procedural adopts the IAEG-SDGs report.
    2. Member States intervention could draw out the process.
  - Noted we have heard from Member States they have concerns about the current indicator framework. Particular concerns about:
    - the reinterpretation of the political ambition of certain targets,
    - indicators that are politically contentious,
    - indicators that don't cover the full scope of the target itself.
  - Another workstream from the IAEG-SDGs which is important to keep track of is the "High Level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for post 2015 monitoring" which aims to establish a global partnership for sustainable development data. In addition, it will provide strategic leadership for the sustainable development goal implementation process as it concerns statistical monitoring and reporting.
  - The Third meeting of the IAEG-SDGs will be held 30 March – 1 April in Mexico City. The meeting objectives are:
    - Establishment of a tier system for indicators
    - Establishment of procedures for the methodological review of indicators, including approval mechanisms of needed revisions
    - Development of global reporting mechanisms, including identifying entities responsible for compiling data for global reporting on individual indicators and discussing data flow from the national to the global level
    - Discussion of the work plan and next steps
  - The application process for participation of stakeholders from civil society, academia and private sector at the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs is now open. You can find the registration process here.
  - Noted the TAP Network will be hosting a side-event at the 47th Session of the UNSC around the role of perception and experiential data/indicators. Will send out more details as planning progresses.

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- Ms. Mari Ullmann, WFUNA noted WFUNA will endorse the "Open Letter to the Co-chairs of the United Nations Inter- Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)" which calls for greater transparency in the engagement of civil society in the indicator process. The letter is addressed to the Chair, UN Statistical Commission and the Co-Chairs of the IAEG-SDGs. Called for endorsement from the TAP Network and its member organizations. You can endorse the open letter here.
- Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, WFUNA asked if any members of the TAP Network sign-on to the open letter or will be attending the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs in Mexico. The TAP Network will be calling for representation on behalf of the TAP Network for the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs.
- Ms. Stacey Cram, Namati:
  - Stated they have sign-on to the open letter and might be attending the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs.
  - Asked if we should be generating more political pressure on Member States as we move closer to the 47th Session of the UNSC.
  - Called for coordination among organizations when planning side-events at the 47th Session of UNSC to avoid competing against each other and generate more turn out.
- Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, WFUNA agreed that we need to coordinate among each other to avoid overlap when planning side-events at the 47th Session of the UNSC. Called for members to inform the Coordinators if members of the TAP Network are planning any side-events at the 47th Session of the UNSC.
- Mr. Peter Chapman, Open Society Foundations:
  - Noted there will be representative from OSF at the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs.
  - Noted the registration process for the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs if you are selected to be on the selection committee you cannot attend the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs in Mexico City.
  - Recommend we coordinate among ourselves to ensure participation.
- Mr. Bill Orme, GFMD stated that he is hoping to attend the IAEG-SDGs in Mexico, and has applied to serve as on Steering Committee and attend as participant.
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator stated the Coordinators will put together a google doc for members to notify the Coordinators if they will be on the Selection Committee for the 3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs or will attending the meeting in Mexico to ensure effective coordination among ourselves.
- Ms. Anna Moller-Loswick, Saferworld noted the UK Chair of the UNSC might step down in March 2016 and a Latin American country most likely Brazil will take over the Chairmanship of the UNSC.
- Mr. Peter Chapman, Open Society Foundations:
  - Noted there might be a briefing by UNSC for observers of the IAEG-SDGs on Monday, 29 February 2016.

- o Asked if it will include civil society in this briefing.
- o Noted the updated indicator framework might be released until the end of February 2016.
- Bill Orme, GFMD confirmed that UNSD briefing on 29 February would be for UN agencies and official observers, and that he believes it would be hosted as a teleconference.
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator provided an update on key opportunities/events going forward which is available on our [website](#):
  - o HLPF negotiations
  - o [47th Session of the UNSC](#) held 8-11 March 2016 at UNHQ which the TAP Network will be hosting a side-event and represent a key advocacy opportunity. The Coordinators will send out a Google doc for members to inform the Coordinators who will attending the 47th Session of the UNSC to ensure effective coordination.
  - o [3rd Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs](#) held 30 March – 1 April 2016 in Mexico City
  - o [International Civil Society Week 2016](#) held in Bogotá, Colombia from 25-28 April 2016 which the TAP Network will be hosting a workshop around our Goal 16 Advocacy Toolkit. The Network will be organizing workshops and webinars to assist in capacity building for members.
  - o PGA High Level Thematic Debates:
    - ▪ [High Level Thematic Debate on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals on 21 April 2016](#)
    - ▪ [High-level Thematic Debate on UN, Peace & Security on 10-11 May 2016](#)
    - ▪ High-level Thematic Debate Human Rights on 12-13 July 2016
  - o Praia Group on Governance Statistics which might be held at the end of June 2016 in Paris.
  - o HLPF 2016
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Network Coordinator highlighted the TAP Network has joined the [Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data](#). We committed to help build capacity of civil society around data, measurement and accountability. Particularly, around Goal 16.

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