

Steering Committee (SC) Minutes New York, 25 September 2015, 13.00 hours

From Spain:

- Gonzalo Robles, *Secretary General for Cooperation; AECID Secretary General*
- Javier Hernández Peña, *Deputy Director General of Development Policies, Secretary General of International Cooperation*
- Luis Martínez Montes, *Second Committee Advisor, Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations*

From UNDP:

- Gina Casar, *Under Secretary General of the United Nations and Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme*
- Paloma Durán, *Director of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDG-F)*
- Raul de Mora, *Head of Communications, Sustainable Development Goals Fund*

Agenda

1. Update on the process to bring the MDG Fund to a close
2. Approval of budget (2015 - 2018)
3. Status of Joint Programmes
 - a) Progress in joint programme implementation
 - b) Approval of joint programmes in SIDS (Fiji and Vanuatu, and Samoa)
4. Update on communication and advocacy activities
5. Update on private sector activities
 - a) Private Sector Advisory Group activities
 - b) Report on the private sector with Harvard/Business Fights Poverty
 - c) Proposal for cooperation with Sahara Group and other resource mobilization activities
 - d) New proposal
 - e) Creative Industries Initiative, including fashion and development
6. Approval of action plan with new AECID contribution for institutional strengthening
7. AOB

The Steering Committee, meeting in New York, took note of the SC report prepared by the SDG-F Secretariat and approved the information contained therein. On the basis of this information (following the agenda), the following agreements were approved:

- An extension of the SDG-F Secretariat's work plan to December 2018 was approved, in line with the budget set out in section 7. This includes a review of the Secretariat team, and of the costs of staffing, rent, travel and so on accordingly, in relation to the budget initially proposed in 2014. This review was approved by the Steering Committee. An extension of the activities and programmes approved for this period was also agreed, should this be necessary.
- It was decided to approve a level P4 secondment to work in the UNDP's post-2015 team, along with the associated costs. Moreover, should the SDG-F Secretariat consider it necessary, the Fund will finance a further secondment or post within the Secretariat, under the same conditions, for whatever purpose it may deem necessary.
- The possibility was discussed of bringing new SDG-F donors on board with direct contributions to the Fund. The SC's initial decision was therefore repeated so that the governance structure can be adapted to enable potential donors to participate in the Steering Committee's decisions regarding the resources they contribute to the SDG-F.
- A change in the SDG-F logo was approved in order to recognize the multi-donor nature of the Fund and to align it with the visual identity adopted for the SDGs, whilst also maintaining continuity with the visual identity of the current logo.
- Implementation of the advocacy activities proposed for 2015 and 2016 with AECID's contribution was approved, with justification to be provided on their completion.
- UNDP also reported on the available balance of funds carried over from the MDG-F, which have been reincorporated into the MPTF for Participating Organizations. At the time of submitting the financial information, these came to USD 7,556,241.96. This amount and, where appropriate, any further amounts that may be received via this channel, will be transferred to the SDG-F and it was decided to use these funds to open a new programme area on public/private innovations for sustainable development. The funds will be used as seed capital to mobilize resources from the private sector and other donors aimed at establishing innovative programmes through which to channel public/private cooperation for achieving the SDGs.
- The importance of further involving the private sector in the work of the SDG-F was discussed, this being one of the priorities of the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with the Addis Ababa Agreement on Financing for Development. In this regard, the SDG-F Secretariat informed the meeting of the following initiatives:

- Launch of an initiative on creative industries for sustainable development (including sports, music, gastronomy, fashion....) The SDG-F is going to appoint Alberto Diez as SDG-F Global Advisor on Creative Industries and Sustainable Development, who will undertake this work “pro bono”.
- An update was provided on progress in the creation of a network of centres for innovation and excellence in the food industry and inclusive development. The first of these centres will be in Nigeria with a contribution from Sahara Group, member company of the SDG-F Private Sector Advisory Group, who are willing to contribute approximately USD 1.5 million. The project is still under negotiation and may request a financial contribution from the SDG-F. It will be reinforced with contributions from the Roca brothers, appointed UNDP/SDG-F Goodwill Ambassadors.
- Where necessary, agreements for private sector contributions will be signed with the Global Compact Foundation, which will be able to receive private sector contributions for the work of the SDG-F, applying 7 percent costs.
- In relation to programmes, the following were approved:
 1. The proposed activities and budget for the security window were approved, and this will begin work in the context of the SDG Chair, with an initial AECID contribution of EUR 150,000.
 2. The proposal for work in SIDS was approved.
 3. The proposal to commence work on a joint programme in Cuba was approved.
 4. The management strategies for knowledge, communication and advocacy and evaluation, included in the Report to the SC, were also approved.

Signed by Gina Casar on behalf of UNDP and Gonzalo Robles on behalf of the Spanish Government, in the Spanish version.



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Proposal for a new governance structure of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDG-F) – Expansion of the Steering Committee

The Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDG-F) has been established as a multi-donor fund for achieving development goals. In order to reflect this character and ensure a governance structure that is at once operational, effective and representative of the various interest groups of the SDG-F (donors, United Nations System, participating countries, the private sector and other strategic partners), a proposal has been advanced to revise the **composition of the Steering Committee** as follows:

- **United Nations System:** The Director of UNDP's Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy on behalf of the UN system (Michael O'Neill)/UNDP's Associate Administrator. He/she would serve as Co-Chair.
- **Donor Member States:** Representative of the Government of Spain, whose initial contribution created the Fund. Other contributing Member States would be part of the SDG-F Steering Committee. Should there be more than three donor countries, the representation will be a rotating one. Spain as the initial donor would be a permanent member and serve as Co-Chair.
- **Participating Member States:** Representative of Member State (1) that is implementing SDG-F projects. In the initial formation, it was proposed to include Peru.
- **International organizations or other sources of matching funds:** For the initial formation, it is proposed to invite the European Union to participate through the Permanent Mission to the United Nations.
- **Private sector:** Representative (1) of the SDG-F Private Sector Advisory Group.
- **Goodwill Ambassadors:** Representative of other strategic partners of the Fund.
- **Director of the SDG-F Secretariat.** He/she would serve as the Secretary of the Steering Committee.

Roles:

The Steering Committee establishes the strategic direction of the Fund, decides on individual financial allocations, monitors decisions taken and strategic disbursements between priorities and among the countries, as well as the progress of the Fund. The Steering Committee has the discretion to invite additional members.

The Steering Committee shall meet at least once a year, without excluding the possibility of convening further meetings as required. Decisions shall be made by consensus, or failing which, by a simple majority.

The Steering Committee may decide to set up technical or thematic subcommittees in which other donors and stakeholders will be involved, particularly for technical or thematic activities.

These changes do not affect the composition of the national governance bodies.

New logo of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund (SDG-F)

