

Voluntary national reviews

22 countries have agreed to present voluntary national reviews at the 2016 session of the HLPF. Preparations for these reviews benefited from regional expert group meetings in Bangkok, Cairo and Geneva, with the support of the regional commissions covering these regions.

Regional inputs

The Convener thanked the Regional Commissions for their support to the HLPF, especially through the regional forums on sustainable development which have enriched the discussion on regional experiences.

Technology Facilitation Mechanism and STI Forum

The Convener noted the significant contributions from the ECESA entities to the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the STI Forum held in June 2016. The Forum will help facilitate development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the SDGs.

Secretary-General's report on progress towards the SDGs

The 2016 HLPF featured the launch of the Secretary-General's first report on progress towards the SDGs.

UNCTs. A total of 95 UNCTs were already formally requested to provide support to implementation of Agenda 2030.

UNDP is working on some Issue Briefs for the 2017 IATF report on several topics, such as inclusive business and aid effectiveness. UNDP suggested that the IATF reports should be analytical and accessible to a broad audience. To that end, it should use case studies and examples from the ground.

On the IAEGs, UNDP also agreed on the importance of data disaggregation, especially to identify those who are left behind. UNCTs

ECLAC underlined that regional forums on sustainable development complement national initiatives by bringing the regional perspectives to the global level. For example, in the case of Latin America and the Caribbean, for middle-income countries, financing is a serious challenge such as tax evasion and base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS). She informed participants that the regional forum for Latin America and Caribbean, on sustainable development was established by a resolution of ECLAC Member States. The regional forum will be informed by several subsidiary bodies of the Commission and its outcomes will feed into the HLPF. ECLAC called for an integrated approach to address issues related to the implementation of the SDGs. In the area of statistics, a big data revolution is needed. ECLAC also suggested convening a retreat of ECESA Plus Principals as soon as possible to discuss substantive issues.

EOSG pointed out three key recommendations coming from several country visits: (i) the need to disseminate information about the 2030 Agenda to the general public; (ii) engage the business sector; (iii) support the changes in the ways that public and private stakeholders work.

ESCAP noted that good progress was being made in coordinating the UN system towards the implementation of Agenda 2030, but that there needed to be a more rigorous examination of the lessons learned from experiences to date, with a crisp analysis fed into the QCPR process. Allowing additional time for internal consultation on the SG Report on QCPR, especially with the regional commissions, would help to strike a better balance between the top-down and bottom-up approaches and a better understanding for the interaction of these approaches. The importance of the institutionalization of the regional forums onplement0(g)10(ion)-11(6(f topm)-3(e)44(