



Provisional Agenda

Expert Group Meeting and Interagency Dialogue on “Strengthening the Global Framework for Leveraging Sport for Development and Peace”

United Nations Headquarters • New York

S-1525-Board Room

13-14 June 2018



## I. Introduction

In the efforts to encourage stakeholders to leverage the potential of sport for development and peace through concrete initiatives and efficient international cooperation, the General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/71/160 requested the Secretary-General to present a report, to its 73<sup>rd</sup> session, which would “provide a review of the contribution of sport to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to present an updated action plan on sport for development and peace”. More specifically, the report of the Secretary-General is expected to 1) include specific initiatives aimed at ensuring more effective implementation of the Olympic Truce; 2) contain progress made by Member States and the United Nations system, towards the implementation of the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace; 3) provide a review of the contribution of sport to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; and 4) present an updated Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace. The updated action plan would need to take into account the lessons learned by different stakeholders that operate in the field of sport for peace and development through research, design and implementation of policies and programmes at local, national and international level, and is expected to serve as framework of reference for governments, civil society and business to identify and promote the best ways sport can deliver towards the achievement of the SDGs.

In light of this request, the Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, is organizing an expert group meeting and interagency dialogue on “**Strengthening the Global Framework for Leveraging Sport for Development and Peace**”. The meeting will be held in New York, USA from 13 - 14 June 2018, as part of the preparations for the 73<sup>rd</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly.

## II. Background: leveraging sport for development and peace

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1, para. 37) describes sport as an important enabler of sustainable development. It recognizes the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives.



This unprecedented recognition offers a compelling incentive and an unmissable opportunity for further joint efforts and action in the field of Sport for Development and Peace. With the aspiration of leaving no one behind and maximizing the contribution of sport for a better and peaceful world, sport can contribute significantly in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Sport's potential should therefore be integrated into global and local framework for sustainable development in order to promote synergy, coherence and harmonization of programmes for the implementation of the SDGs. Limited comparable data exists on the impact of sport in social and economic settings, but the many existing positive narratives are driving continued research on the leveraging the role of sport for development gains.

### **III. Objectives, Key Questions and Methodology**

The purpose of the expert group meeting and interagency dialogue is to identify and review key research, good practices, policy implications, challenges and lessons learned in the following areas:

1. Sport's contribution to achieving sustainable development;
2. Sport's contribution to building and sustaining peace;
3. Mainstreaming of sport, in development programmes and policies;
4. Resource mobilization for leveraging sport for development and peace; and
5. Monitoring and evaluation of programmes and policies to leverage sport for development and peace

By addressing these areas, the meeting will inform the UN system efforts to undertake a coherent and coordinated approach to using and promoting sport as an enabler of sustainable development, peace and stability, and will further inform the intergovernmental dialogue on how to leverage sport at national and global levels for achieving global development goals.

To achieve its objectives, the meeting will seek to answer key questions such as:

- i. What are the key trends, patterns and challenges to leveraging sport as catalyst for development gains at national, regional and international level
- ii. What are the key trends, patterns and challenges to leveraging sport for building and sustaining peace within and across countries?
- iii. What are effective mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation, outcomes and impact of sport-focused development initiatives?
- iv. What mechanisms of funding and implementation have been most effective in securing the sustainability and impact of sport-focused initiatives?
- v. What additional efforts are required to advance the mainstreaming of sport into development programmes and policies at national and international level? How does this translate into leveraging sport for achieving the SDGs?
- vi. What global actions can be put in place to advance the leveraging of sport for development and peace in a in a coherent and coordinated manner?

The meeting will be a two-day, two-part event that will allow for exchange of ideas among representatives from the United Nations system, independent experts, relevant regional and international organizations, and other stakeholders.



Experts, invited in their personal capacity, from outside the United Nations system will participate in part-one of the event, on 13 June 2018. Invited experts will provide brief background papers (approximately 5-10 pages, single-spaced, in English) to the United Nations Secretariat by 15 May 2018 for distribution to other participants. Each background paper would address a specific agenda item and include a summary of the expert's own research and evidence from other sources, as well as references to relevant parts of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Approximately two weeks prior to the meeting, experts will also be presented with a draft of the report to the General Assembly, so that their presentation and discussion can also provide direct input, guidance or critique as appropriate on the chosen focus, proposed conclusions and policy recommendations. All sessions of the meeting will be in plenary and invited experts will lead-off discussions of each session with paper presentations of 10-15 minutes, which will then be followed by in-depth plenary discussions. During the wrap up session of the meeting, on 13 June 2018, participants will outline the major conclusions and recommendations of the meeting.

Organizational representatives will lend their expertise to the plenary discussions from the perspective of their various work programmes and organizational objectives. They will further contribute to the formulation of the major conclusions and recommendations of the expert dialogue on 13 June 2018. On 14 June 2018, organizational representatives will participate in an interagency dialogue to further discuss a framework for cooperation among agencies and organizations on the issue of sport and identify key actions from the international community for follow-up to the major conclusions and recommendations of the expert dialogue.

The Division for Inclusive Social Development will prepare a final report summarizing the discussions and key conclusions of the meeting. With participants' permission, the background papers and presentations will be posted on the Division's website.

#### **IV. Expected outputs**

The meeting is expected to provide substantive input for the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on "Sport for Development and Peace" to be submitted to the 73<sup>rd</sup> session of the General Assembly.

In addition, the meeting will also produce the following outputs:

- i. Substantive papers on the theme of the meeting, with concrete policy recommendations, prepared by experts;
- ii. A draft update to the United Nations Action Plan on Sports for Development and Peace to outline guiding principles and key action areas for a coherent system-wide approach to leveraging sport for development and peace;
- iii. A meeting report, summarizing the deliberations of the experts and key recommendations to be included in Secretary-General's Report.



## V. Organizational and administrative matters

The Division for Inclusive Social Development of UNDESA will identify and invite approximately 10 experts in the field of sport for development and peace taking into consideration gender and geographical balances. The Division will also invite representatives of relevant United Nations offices, agencies, funds and programmes, regional commissions and other international partners working in the field of sport for development and peace. The Division will meet the costs related to the participation (travel and per diem) of experts, invited in their personal capacity, from outside the United Nations system.

Presenters are encouraged to prepare PowerPoint presentations and to share them in advance with the organizers, if possible. All papers and presentations should be sent to **Ms. Atsede Mengesha** ([mengesha@un.org](mailto:mengesha@un.org)), with a copy to **Ms. Astrid Hurley** ([hurleya@un.org](mailto:hurleya@un.org)), and **Mr. Kosmas Kotas** ([kotas@un.org](mailto:kotas@un.org)). Invited experts from outside the United Nations system are expected to arrive in New York on 12 June 2018 and to stay throughout the first day of the meeting on 13 June 2018. Organizational representatives are expected to arrive in New York on 12 June 2018 and to stay throughout both parts of the meeting on 13-14 June 2018.

## VI. Documentation and the Language of the meeting

The documentation of the meeting will be comprised of relevant publications, documents and materials related to the theme of the meeting. With participants' permission, the background papers and presentations will be posted on the Division for Social Development's website.

The working language of the meeting will be English. Documentation for the meeting will be provided in English.