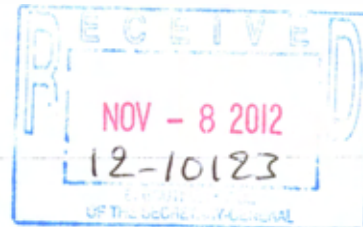


Joe
pls note
Rebecca
meeting to be
coming Jan 11

ACTION ASD/12/11

COPY DEG



Note to the Deputy Secretary-General

Proposed retreat on the follow-up to the
United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and post-2015
development agenda

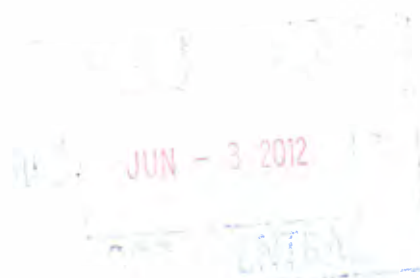
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As a follow-up to the meeting, I have tasked DESA colleagues to prepare a short concept note on the proposed retreat (see Annex).

The note has taken on board the views and perspectives raised during the discussion. I would like to reassure you that DESA will work closely with UNDP and the Special Advisor on post-2015 development agenda in organizing this retreat.

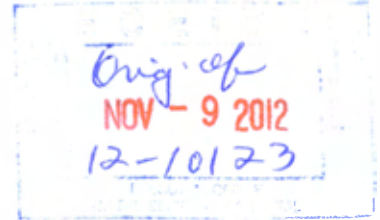
Thank you for your support.

Wu Hongbo
7 November 2012



Central

Note to the Deputy Secretary-General



Proposed retreat on the follow-up to the
United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and post-2015
development agenda

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Wu Hongbo
7 November 2012

DEV/09/003; DEV/03/001

DESA-12/01591



Concept note on the retreat on the follow-up to the
United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and post-2015
development agenda

Participation

Participants will be Permanent Representatives of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York; exceptionally their deputies will be invited to participate. Additionally, President of the General Assembly and President of the Economic and Social Council will also be invited.

From the United Nations side, the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the UNDP Administrator, and the Special Advisor on post-2015 development agenda will be among those invited to speak.

Sponsorship and support

As an option, the President of the General Assembly and the Permanent Mission of Brazil (host of Rio+20), could be asked to co-sponsor the event. Brazil has been planning for a follow-up event for Rio+20 in January. The retreat could be part of the related activities.

The event will be supported and organized by OUSG and DSD/DESA, in close collaboration with UNDP and the Special Advisor on post-2015 development agenda. They will organize the logistics (transportation, venue, meals) and the substantive support (concept note and any other relevant documents to support discussions, note-taking and preparation of summary of discussions). Given the informal and candid nature of the retreat, we could propose that it be held under Chatham House rules.

Financing

Financing will be provided from the balance of funds earmarked for DESA's support to the preparation of Rio+20.

Timing

Taking into account the recent discussion, it is now proposed that the retreat take place in January 2013 (possibly Friday afternoon of 18 and Saturday 19 January 2013).

The agenda is less crowded in January than in December when the General Assembly is wrapping up its work and the diplomatic community that is targeted is involved in negotiating a number of important resolutions, one of which – on QCPR – is now expected to extend to late December.

The retreat would most likely take place just before the first substantive meeting of the open working group on SDGs, which will be the right timing.

Purpose

Rio+20 Outcome has launched a number of processes that need a coordinated and coherent follow-up and also need to be complementary with processes of post-2015 development agenda. In order to put everyone at the same level of knowledge to achieve this coordinated implementation, this retreat will serve as a timely platform for informal information sharing and discussion. It will serve as a useful venue for exchange of ideas on the way forward.

Proposed agenda

Agenda would consist of the following: (i) linking the MDGs and SDGs: how SDGs could build on and reinforce the MDGs; (ii) integration of the SDGs within the post-2015 development agenda; (iii) the formulation of SDGs: how are they to be clustered and how to limit the number; how to reach consensus on them and related working modalities; financing the realization of the SDGs.

Format

After a plenary session, the retreat will be organized in breakaway sessions, that will focus on the same agenda outlined above. Each breakaway session will have 2-3 lead discussants to start the conversation and then there will be a discussion around some questions that will be shared in advance.

Outcome

An informal summary of discussions will be produced and shared with all stakeholders including through the Sustainable Knowledge Platform maintained by DSD/DESA.