



United Nations

## Expert Group Meeting

*Promoting Empowerment of People in Achieving Poverty Eradication,  
Social Integration and Full Employment and Decent Work for All*

Division for Social Policy and Development  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

New York  
10-12 September 2012

### DRAFT AGENDA

<p><b>DAY 1</b> - 10 September 2012 South-South News Conference Room<sup>1</sup></p>
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- 9:00 – 9:30**      Registration
- 9:30 – 10:00**      *Opening Session*  
Welcoming Remarks  
**Ambassador Francis Lorenzo**, President South-South News
- Opening Statement  
**Mr. Wu Hongbo**, Under-Secretary-General  
Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
- Remarks  
**Ms. Daniela Bas**, Director  
Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD, DESA)

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<sup>1</sup> Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, 48<sup>th</sup> Floor, 885 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, New York, NY 10017

\* to be confirmed

- 10:00 – 10:10**     **Introduction**  
**Ms. Daniela Bas**, Director  
Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD, DESA)
- 10:10 – 11:45**     ***Session 1 – Empowerment and Participation: Key Challenges, Good Practices and Lessons Learned***
- Facilitator: Mr. Timo Voipio**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland
- **Mr. Jethro Pettit**, Institute of Development Studies, UK  
*Empowerment and Participation*
  - **Ms. Deepa Narayan**, Independent Advisor  
International Poverty, Gender and Development  
*Empowerment, Participation and Voices of the Poor*
  - **Mr. John Mathiason**, Cornell University  
*Why is Empowerment Important Now?*
- 11:45 – 12:00**     **Break**
- 12:00 – 1:00**     **Discussion**
- 1:00 – 2:15**     **Lunch Break**
- 2:15 – 3:45**     ***Session 2 – Empowerment of Social Groups: Challenges and Opportunities***
- Facilitator: Mr. Jethro Pettit**  
Institute of Development Studies, UK
- **Ms. Tacko Ndiaye**, UN Women  
*Empowerment of Women*
  - **Ms. Sylvia Beales**, HelpAge International, UK  
*Empowerment of Older Persons*
  - **Ms. Zitha Mokomane**, Human Sciences Research Council,  
South Africa  
*Role of Families in Social and Economic Empowerment of  
Individuals*
- 3:45 – 4:00**     **Break**
- 4:00 – 5:30**     **Discussion**

**8:30 – 11:00**      *Session 3 - Video Conference with Regional Commissions:  
Regional Perspectives on Empowerment*

**Facilitator: Mr. Amr Nour**, Director  
Regional Commissions New York Office

- **Ms. Sarah Cook**, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)
- **Mr. Patrik Andersson**, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- **Mr. Simone Cecchini**  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- **Ms. Dina Tannir**, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- **Ms. Rose Aderolli; Ms. Thokozile Ruzvidzo**, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Africa (ECA)
- **Ms. Malinka Koparanova**, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

**Discussion**

**11:00 – 11:15**      **Break**

**11:15 – 12:45**      *Session 4 – Empowerment through Employment, Social Protection, Microfinance, Land Ownership and Land Rights*

**Facilitator: Deepa Narayan**, Independent Advisor  
International Poverty, Gender and Development

- **Mr. Massimiliano La Marca**,  
International Labour Organization  
*Empowerment of People through Employment*
- **Mr. Timo Voipio**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland  
*Empowerment through Social Protection*

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<sup>2</sup> DC2 Plaza, 44<sup>th</sup> Street between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
\* to be confirmed

- **Ms. Sharon Brennen-Haylock**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
*Empowerment through Land Ownership and Land Rights*

**Discussion**

**12:45 – 1:15** Civil Society and Outreach Unit, DSPD, DESA  
*Social Media/Online survey + Video*

**1:15 – 2:15** **Lunch Break**

**2:15 – 3:30** *Session 5 – Empowerment through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)*

**Facilitator: Mr. John Mathiason**, Cornell University

- **Mr. Ahmad Alhendawi**, Youth Development and Civil Society, Jordan  
*Empowerment, Youth and ICT*
- **Mr. Norman Uphoff**, Cornell University  
*Empowering Farmers through ICT*

**Discussion**

**3:30 – 3:45** **Break**

**3:45 – 5:30** *Session 6 – Civil Society: Empowering People*

**Facilitator: Ms. Staci Alziebler-Perkins**, the Conference of NGOs with Consultative relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO)

- **Mr. Ming Hwee Chong**  
NGO Committee for Social Development  
*Role of Civil Society in Promoting Empowerment of People*
- **Mr. Ricardo Fuentes-Nieva**, OXFAM International  
*Empowering Poor People: the Role of NGOs*
- **Ms. Rangita de Silva de Alwis**  
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars  
*Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities*

**Discussion**

**DAY 3 - 12 September 2012**  
South-South News Conference Room

**9:00 – 11:00**      *Session 7 – Governance, Empowerment and Participation*

**Facilitator: Mr. Jonas Rabinovitch**, Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM, DESA)

- **Mr. Olympios Katsiaouni**  
former Interregional Advisor, DESA  
*Governance, Empowerment and Participation*
- **Mr. John Mathiason**, Cornell University  
*Empowerment and Governance at the International Level*
- **Mr. Clem McCartney**, Club de Madrid  
*Economic Governance*

**Discussion**

**11:00 – 11:15**      **Break**

**11:15 – 12:00**      *Session 8 - Closing Session*

- **Mr. John Mathiason**, Cornell University  
Conclusions, Key Messages and Recommendations
- **Closing Remarks**  
**H.E. Henry L. Mac-Donald**, Permanent Representative of Suriname to the United Nations and Chair of the Third Committee of the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly