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**Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards of  
UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP  
2018  
Programme (draft)**

1 June 2018

Conference Room 2, United Nations Headquarters, New York

<b>Friday, 1 June 2018</b>	
<b>Morning segment – 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.</b>	
10:00-10:05	Welcoming remarks by the Chair: President Executive Board of UNDP/ UNFPA/UNOPS H.E. Mr. Jagdish D. Koonjul, Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Mauritius
10:05-10:10	Opening statement by H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations (TBC)
<b>Morning TOPIC 1:</b>	
❖ <b>Joint efforts to strengthen coherence, collaboration and efficiency in the field – effective ways to deliver results together to successfully address programme country priorities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda</b>	
10:10-10:15	Remarks by Administrator of UNDP, Mr. Achim Steiner
10:15-10:20	Remarks by Executive Director of UNICEF, Ms. Henrietta H. Fore (TBC)
10:20-11:50	The morning session will spotlight <b>Sudan</b> as a case for collaboration. Guests speakers from the UNCT will speak to different aspects of collaboration in Sudan and address questions identified in the background note. Guest speakers include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Marta Ruedas (Former Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, RC/HC Sudan, currently Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)/RC/HC/UNDP RR/Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) (TBC)</li> <li>2. Mr. Matthew Hollingworth (WFP Representative/Country Director in Sudan, and RC/HC Sudan a.i.) (TBC)</li> <li>3. Mr. Abdullah Fadil (UNICEF Representative to Sudan) (TBC)</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;">Interaction/Q&amp;A with the membership of the Executive Boards (45mins)</p>
11:50-12:50	Interactive discussion between the Presidents of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, WFP and UN-Women, the 6 Principals of UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNFPA, WFP and UN-Women), and with the membership of the Executive Boards <i>Moderator: President of Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS (TBC)</i>
12:50-12:55	Concluding remarks by Executive Director of UNOPS, Ms. Grete Faremo (TBC)
12:55-1:00	Closing remarks by President of Executive Board of UNICEF H.E. Mr. Tore Hattrem, Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Norway



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**Lunchtime discussion****TOPIC 2:**❖ **Reflecting on the working methods of the Executive Boards**

1:15–14:45	Moderated dialogue between the Bureau members of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP <i>Moderator: President of Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS (TBC)</i>
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**Afternoon segment – 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

15:00–15:05	Opening remarks by the chair: President of Executive Board of WFP Mr. Zoltán Kálmán, Minister Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies in Rome
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**Afternoon TOPIC 3:**❖ **Overcoming inequalities among and within countries, including gender inequality, to achieve the SDGs – reaching the poorest and most vulnerable populations first**

15:05–15:15	Remarks by Executive Director of UNFPA, Dr. Natalia Kanem (TBC)
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15:15–15:20	Remarks by Executive Director of UN-Women, Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka (TBC)
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15:20–16:50	The afternoon session will outline key opportunities and challenges in addressing <b>inequalities</b> to achieve the SDGs and identify critical steps required to tackle these issues.
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Guest speakers comprising a mix of academic expertise and field experience will present a substantive and practical perspective on the challenge of inequalities and on how the UN development agencies can position themselves to address these issues effectively.

Guest speakers include:

1. Ms. Radhika Balakrishnan, Professor of Women's and Gender Studies at Rutgers University, and faculty director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership (TBC)
2. NN (TBD)
3. Ms. Arnaud Peral, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in Ecuador, Resident Representative of UNDP and Representative of UNFPA in Ecuador (TBC)

Interaction/Q&A with the membership of the Executive Boards (45mins)

*Moderator: Ms. Rachel Snow, Chief, Population and Development Branch, UNFPA*

16:50–17:50	Interactive discussion between the Presidents of the four Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, WFP and UN-Women, the Principals of six UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNFPA, WFP and UN-Women), and the membership of the Executive Boards
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17:50–17:55	Concluding remarks by Deputy Executive Director of WFP, Mr. Amir Abdulla (TBC)
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17:55–18:00	Closing remarks by President of Executive Board of UN-Women H.E. Ms. Ivana Pajević, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Montenegro to the United Nations
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<b>Debriefing of the Presidents of the Executive Boards – 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.</b>
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18:00–18:30 Debriefing of the Presidents of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP (closed meeting)
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## TOPIC 1

### Rationale – Country case: Sudan

The session will focus on Sudan as a case for collaboration between UN agencies and with other partners to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda based on national priorities. A new United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2021 was adopted last year and guides the UNCT in its support to SDG implementation in the country.

An inter-agency MAPS mission (ILO, UNDP, UNDESA, UNICEF, OECD, WFP) took place in October 2017 to provide support the country in defining a national SDG framework with Sudan-specific SDG targets and indicators. Sudan is preparing for the Voluntary National Review at the 2018 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

In addition, Sudan provides an example of the New Way of Working. The UN has been providing support on peacekeeping, peacebuilding, development and humanitarian assistance in numerous areas of Sudan. It has taken steps to align these different strands and identify collective outcomes in order to have greater impact in reaching the SDGs, and in light of the forthcoming drawdown of United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID). The UNCT hosted two missions in support of this ambition last year – a humanitarian-development-peace nexus coordination review mission, and a financing strategy mission.

### Guest speakers

#### Ms. Marta Ruedas

Ms. Ruedas has more than 25 years of experience with the UN both at headquarters and field level, spanning four continents. Ms. Marta Ruedas was the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for Sudan from August 2015 – May 2018. As of May 2018, Marta will serve as the Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Iraq.

Prior to the Sudan Resident Coordinator position, she was the UNDP Country Director in Afghanistan (2014-2015). She served as Deputy Director of the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, and from 2007 to 2010 as UN Deputy Special Coordinator, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Lebanon. Earlier in her career she served as



Deputy Regional Director at the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (2003 to 2007), Resident Coordinator in Bulgaria (2001 to 2003), and Resident Coordinator in São Tomé and Príncipe (1999 to 2001). Previously, Ms. Ruedas also served UNDP in Bolivia, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Georgia, Nepal, Mongolia and Mexico.

### **Mr. Abdullah Fadil**

Mr. Fadil is the UNICEF Representative to Sudan. Before assuming his official duties in Sudan, Mr. Fadil served as Director of the United Nations Humanitarian Monitoring Mechanism for Syria based in Amman, Jordan.

With over two decades working on issues of peace and security, humanitarian aid and development, Mr. Fadil has operated and functioned in different leadership positions including as Deputy Head of Mission and Chief of Staff of the United Nations (UN) - OPCW (Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons) Joint Mission based in Damascus, Syria; Chief of Mission Support for UN peacekeeping and peace building missions in the Middle East UNTSO (UN Truce Supervision Organization) /UNSCO (Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process) based in Jerusalem; Head of Office for African Union - United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) based in El Geneina and Head of Office for United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) based in Nyala; in addition to previous work with the UN in Kosovo, NY-HQ and Montreal Canada.

### **Mr. Matthew Hollingworth**

Mr. Hollingworth is the WFP Representative and Country Director in Sudan, and RC/HC a.i. as of Marta Ruedas' departure.

Mr. Hollingworth has worked for WFP for more than 15 years in several countries, including Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sudan and Syria. Hollingworth has also served as Deputy Regional Director for the WFP Regional Office for the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia and Eastern Europe.

## **TOPIC 2**

### **Rationale**

The lunchtime session will be a moderated discussion based on the December 2017 non-paper, Discussion Note on Executive Board Working Methods, produced by the Presidents of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, in consultation with the Executive Board secretariats.



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## TOPIC 3

### Rationale

The afternoon session will outline key opportunities and challenges in addressing inequalities to achieve the SDGs and identify critical steps required to tackle these issues.

The session will be structured as interactive panel discussion, focusing particularly on leaving no one behind, with the participation of guest speakers, the principals and the Board members. Guiding questions will cover causes for and solutions to entrenched inequality, especially gender equality, inquire examples of successful approaches from guest speakers, and discuss UN system wide solutions to discrimination.

Guest speakers comprising a mix of academic expertise and field experience will present a substantive and practical perspective on the challenge of inequalities and how the UN development agencies can position themselves to address these issues effectively.

This session will be divided into two parts and be moderated by the UNFPA Chief of Population and Development, Rachel Snow.

### Guest speakers

#### Ms. Radhika Balakrishnan (TBC)

Radhika Balakrishnan is faculty director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership, and Professor of Women's and Gender Studies at Rutgers University. She is currently the Chair of the Board of the US Human Rights Network and on the Board of the Center for Constitutional Rights and the International Association for Feminist Economics.

Professor Radhika Balakrishnan's work focuses on gender and development, gender and the global economy, human rights and economic and social rights. Her research and advocacy work has sought to change the lens through which macro-economic policy is interpreted and critiqued by applying international human rights norms to assess macro-economic policy.

#### Ms. Gay McDougall (TBC)

Gay McDougall has recently been elected to serve a second term as a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. She served as the first UN independent expert on minority issues and for 14 years she was executive director of Global Rights. Prior to this assignment, she direct assistance to the defense of thousands of political prisoners in South Africa and Namibia. She was appointed to the electoral commission that ran the first democratic elections in South Africa.



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Gay McDougall earned a JD at Yale Law School, an LLM in public international law at the London School of Economics and Politics, and a BA in social science at Bennington College.

**Mr. Arnaud Peral (confirmed)**

Mr. Arnaud Peral (France) is the United Nations Resident Coordinator, and UNDP and UNFPA Resident Representative, for Ecuador since March 2017. He has more than 17 years of experience working in Latin America and the Caribbean in the area of sustainable development cooperation, democratic governance, income generation, South-South cooperation, crisis management and natural disasters prevention, conflict resolution and peace building. During his career, he has always been a strong advocate of gender equality and empowerment of women.

Previously, he served as UNDP Country Director in Colombia (2014-2017), UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Brazil (2010-2014) and in Mexico (2006-2010). Before joining the United Nations, he was Cooperation Counsellor with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, French Embassy in Cuba (1998-2000). He also served as an Assistant Policy Advisor with the French Ministry of Environment (1998) and an Assistant Researcher and Policy Advisor with the Ministry of Agriculture (1997-1998) in Chile. Arnaud began his career as a Junior Financial Advisor, UCB Bank and with the humanitarian NGO EquiLibre. He holds a Master's degree in Development Economics from the University of Paris X – Nanterre, France.

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