# REGIONAL MINISTERIAL CONSULTATION

**Monitoring and Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Agenda – The Regional Dimension**

15-16 (a.m.) September 2014, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Room XVII

**Provisional Agenda (as of 10 September 2014)**

- **Monday, 15 September 2014**

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| 10:00 – 11:00 | OPENING                          | **H.E. Mr. Michael Gerber (Chair)**
|          |                                  | Ambassador, Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development, Switzerland |
|          |                                  | **H.E. Mr. Martin Dahinden**
|          |                                  | State Secretary and Director General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC |
|          |                                  | **Ms. Amina J. Mohammed**
|          |                                  | Special Adviser of the UN Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning |
|          |                                  | **Mr. Christian Friis Bach**
|          |                                  | Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe |
|          |                                  | **Ms. Cihan Sultanoglu**
|          |                                  | Chair of the Regional UNDG Team for Europe and Central Asia
|          |                                  | UNDP Regional Director for Europe and CIS |
|          |                                  | **H.E. Mr. Rashid Meredov**
|          |                                  | Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan |
|          |                                  | **Ms. Sascha Gabizon**
|          |                                  | Executive Director of WECF - Women in Europe for a Common Future |

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1 The Regional Ministerial Consultation has been prepared by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Regional UN Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia.
11:00 – 13:00  **Panel 1:** ACCOUNTABILITY FOR A TRANSFORMATIVE UNIVERSAL AGENDA

The goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda will be high-level political commitments, which are not legally binding. It is therefore crucial that all relevant actors take responsibility for achieving actual change, answer to their constituencies, and disclose actions and results in a transparent way. In other words - accountability will be crucial to implement the post-2015 development framework. There is an emerging view that the accountability mechanism for the post-2015 agenda should be multi-layered, involving mechanisms as well as new partnerships at the national, regional and global level. The panel will discuss what an overall monitoring and accountability mechanism could look like and how it will help achieve the future Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Moderator:**

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed
Special Adviser of the UN Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning

**Panellists:**

**H.E. Ms. Elvira Sarieva**  
Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic

**Mr. Timo Makela**  
Director, Global and Regional Challenges, LIFE  
Directorate-General for the Environment, European Commission

**Mr. Stephan Contius**  
Head of Division, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany

**Mr. Mark Halle**  
Vice-President, Strategy & Executive Director  
International Institute for Sustainable Development-Europe

**Ms. Carina Larsfälten**  
Managing Director, Global Policy Affairs  
World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

**Ms. Tanya Cox**  
Senior Advocacy Manager, Plan International  
Co-Chair European Steering Group, Beyond 2015

**Ms. Kirsi Madi**  
Deputy Regional Director, UNICEF Regional Office for CEE/CIS

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2 The panels are organized as multi-stakeholder panels, including representatives from governments, civil society, international organizations, the private sector and academia. The interventions by panellists are followed by an interactive discussion from the floor.
Panel 2: LESSONS FROM EXISTING MECHANISMS

The panel will discuss lessons from existing review or accountability processes that can inform the design of post-2015 accountability. For instance, progress on sustainable development was reviewed in the past under the auspices of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). Monitoring and accountability under the MDG framework has been carried out through various mechanism and procedures. Data collection, analysis and monitoring is part of a variety of multilateral instruments and programmes. Moreover, peer review mechanisms are considered to be an effective instrument to strengthen accountability in a multilateral context with strong ownership by participating governments. Some examples are the Universal Periodic Review conducted under the auspices of the Human Rights Council, the OECD Peer Reviews, ECOSOC’s Annual Ministerial Review, the WTO Trade Policy Review Mechanism and the UNECE Environmental Performance Reviews. The panel will review these experiences and draw conclusions for the future development agenda, including how existing mechanisms can be used and incorporated in the post-2015 context in a coherent manner.

Moderator:

Mr. Christian Friis Bach
Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Panellists:

H.E. Ms. Valentina Tapis
Minister of Environment of the Republic of Moldova

Mr. Laszlo Borbely
President of Committee for Foreign Policy, Parliament of Romania

Ms. Ivana Savic
Executive Director, Centre for Human Rights and Development Studies

Mr. Ben Slay
Poverty Reduction Practice Leader, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mr. Gianni Magazzeni
Chief of the Americas, Europe and Central Asia Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Ms. Karen Jorgensen
Head of the Review, Evaluation and Engagement Division, Development Co-operation Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Ms. Sabine Döbeli
CEO Swiss Sustainable Finance
Head of Corporate Sustainability Management, Vontobel
### 16:30 – 18:00
**Panel 3: LINKAGES WITH NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

Regional reviews need to be anchored at the national level and feed into the global level. The panel will discuss ways to link accountability at the different levels in an effective and productive manner. A key pillar of the overall system will be national accountability. National SDG reports, prepared by governments and supported by the UN Country Teams and the UN Development Group as appropriate, could play a key role in the review process and provide important inputs to the regional review. National parliaments could also be involved. Reviews at the global level will be carried out by the High-level Political Forum. Connecting the different levels will be crucial to make accountability work.

**Moderator:**

**Ms. Cihan Sultanoglu**  
Chair of the Regional UNDG Team for Europe and Central Asia and UNDP Regional Director for Europe and CIS

**Panellists:**

**H.E. Ms. Elona Gjebrea Hoxha**  
Deputy Minister of Interior of Albania

**H.E. Mr. Ljubisa Perovic**  
Permanent Representative of Montenegro to the United Nations in Geneva

**Ms. Petra Bayr**  
Member of the Austrian Parliament

**Mr. Urs Leimbacher**  
Head Issue Management and Messaging, Swiss Re

**Mr. Guido Schmidt-Traub**  
Executive Director UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network

**Ms. Raquel Gonzalez**  
Director Geneva Office, International Trade Union Confederation

### 18:00 – 20:00
**RECEPTION FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS (Serpent Bar, E Building, Palais des Nations)**

Hosted by the Swiss Federal Council

Welcoming remarks by H.E. Mr. Pio Wennubst  
Ambassador, Assistant Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
**Panel 4: SCOPE AND PROCESS OF REGIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM**

The panel will discuss what a regional accountability mechanism for the post-2015 agenda could look like. This entails the questions of what should be reviewed at the regional level, and who the actors in the accountability process should be. There are different possibilities in terms of substantive scope and frequency of the regional process. Also, accountability can take different forms, ranging from more basic monitoring to more comprehensive reviews. In addition, an important question is the role of the UN system and other stakeholders (civil society, private sector, academia) in the process.

*Moderator:*

**Mr. Jan Dusik**  
Director, UNEP Regional Office for Europe

*Panelists:*

**H.E. Ms. Maia Bitadze**  
Deputy Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources, Georgia

**Mr. Michel Amand**  
Director, Sustainable Development Department, Public Service of Wallonia, Belgium

**Ms. Leida Rijnhout**  
Global Policies Director, European Environmental Bureau

**Mr. Thomas Gass**  
Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

**Mr. Erol Kiresepi**  
Vice-President, Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations  
CEO of Santa Farma Pharmaceuticals

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**11:30 – 12:00**  
**COFFEE BREAK**

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**12:00 – 12:45**  
**KEY MESSAGES: CHAIR’S SUMMARY**

The Chair will present the key messages from the meeting, followed by comments from the floor that will be taken into account in the final version of the Chair’s summary.
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| **H.E. Mr. Michael Gerber (Chair)**  
Ambassador, Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development, Switzerland | |
| **Mr. Christian Friis Bach**  
Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe | |

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