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UN2020 Information, Organization, and Strategy Meeting: Responding to Multilateralism in Crisis

Monday, October 15, 2018, 9:30am – 5:00pm EST
Church Center, 2nd Floor, 777 United Nations Plaza, 44th Street and 1st Avenue

Hosted by:

World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy, the Stimson Center, CIVICUS, The Workable World Trust, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung New York, United Nations Association-UK

Meeting objectives

The year 2020 will mark the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. As this milestone approaches, there is a widely shared sense that the sustainability of a rules-based international order cannot be taken for granted, that multilateralism is under increasing threat. During the last two years, the civil society-led initiative UN2020 has facilitated discussions with many member states, secretariat officials and civil society on the need for a successful, well prepared 75th anniversary commemoration for the UN in 2020, one that includes a meaningful process of stocktaking, review and strengthening of the organization. UN2020 aims to provide a platform to promote cooperation and dialogue among civil society groups, governments and the UN in support of a people-centered multilateralism.

At a meeting on October 15, 2018, some 50 civil society representatives representing diverse constituencies, about half of them from outside the US, gathered in New York to develop strategies and proposals for global outreach, coalition-building, and advocacy in support of UN2020 objectives. Participants consulted about past and current UN reform initiatives, shared global campaigns and regional perspectives, identified synergies with the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement, and discussed prospects for a 75th UN Anniversary Leaders Summit with H.E. Vladimir Drobnyak (Croatia). The meeting resulted in the key recommendations outlined below to harness civil society participation in an intergovernmental process leading to an accelerated renewal, innovation and reform of the UN in 2020 and beyond.



Summary of proposals and actionable recommendations:

In brief, two approaches were repeatedly expressed during the meeting addressing the crisis of multilateralism:

- Some participants took the view that the solution to the crisis of multilateralism requires a conversation beyond the UN, to address fundamental questions about the current global political constellation, such as the concentration of power, the unequal distribution of wealth, and extraterritorial accountability.
- Other participants focused more on the UN intergovernmental process, suggesting concrete steps to develop formal modalities that will ensure a successful 2020 UN Summit that will initiate effective measures to strengthen the organization.

Concrete recommendations:

- The 75th UN anniversary should be an opportunity to develop synergies and linkages between the different ongoing UN processes ranging from UN reform to climate justice, peace, human rights and sustainable development.
- Preparations for the proposed 2020 UN Summit should be mandated by the General Assembly. The President of the General Assembly should appoint co-facilitators to prepare a modalities resolution that includes the adoption of a political declaration marking the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the UN.
- The preparatory process should include multi-stakeholder modalities.
- The participation of communities of practice around core issue areas of concern in 2020 is essential.
- A panel of eminent persons and other stakeholders should be appointed by the Secretary-General or initiated by civil society in an effort to stimulate governments and ministers to engage in the process.
- Map out the different UN reform processes and identify key CSO networks to help develop ambitious reform proposals for consideration at the 2020 UN Summit.
- To raise awareness about the crisis of multilateralism and the opportunity that the 75th anniversary is offering, it is important to facilitate dialogues worldwide by organizing webinars and events at national and regional levels in cooperation with the Regional Commissions.
- At the core of the UN reform, there should be a focus on strengthening the human rights framework.
- Women play a crucial role in decision-making processes, and there should be greater effort to get women into decision-making positions.
- A civil society focal point should be established within the UN secretariat to strengthen modalities for civil society participation at the UN.
- Conduct a cross-cutting global survey to hear the voices of the people.

In conclusion: the meeting fostered a diverse dialogue and contributed to raising awareness to a series of urgent issues and processes, but most importantly, emphasized the important opportunity that the 75th anniversary of the founding of the UN offers for sustained engagement.

9:30am – 9:45 am: Welcome Remarks

Volker Lehmann, FES New York, welcomed participants and positioned the discussion in the broader context of 2020, when the United Nations will celebrate its 75th anniversary. In this regard, the 75th anniversary is a launchpad for further multilateral renewal, innovation, and reform of the United Nations system after 2020. He noted that this meeting was a chance for civil society to work together and brainstorm towards 2020 and beyond to bring different initiatives together. By the end of the meeting, it was expected there would be a development of common themes which would lead the UN2020 initiative to support a more people-centered multilateralism.

9:45am – 10:45am: Reflections and lessons learned from past UN reform initiatives

Moderator: Jeffery Huffines, CIVICUS, quoted Ambassador Miroslav Lajčák, the former PGA, who in his farewell speech noted that: “Principles upon which the UN was founded are no longer universally accepted and cherished. We are seeing trends that are going in opposite directions. We see a return to bilateralism and exclusive clubs, and an erosion of rule-based systems.”

The moderator emphasized that there is an ongoing disconnect between the demand for UN reform versus a shrinking UN budget. The reform of the UN Security Council has failed so far. Ambassador Lajčák had advised that space is shrinking not only for civil society at the UN, but for governments as well where international negotiations are frequently conducted on a bilateral basis or within ad hoc multilateral frameworks outside of the UN. These are the signs of the crisis of multilateralism. If multilateralism fails, we will be faced with an existential threat.

The UN2020 initiative is a platform for dialogue and an opportunity to conduct a system-wide stocktaking. At the August 2018 UN DPI/NGO conference, over 1,000 NGOs called on governments to, **“Advance people-centered multilateralism by developing proposals to revitalize the United Nations on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary in 2020.”** Beyond funding, the missing piece of the puzzle to achieve the SDGs by 2030 is global governance. The moderator reminded participants that with the upcoming 75th anniversary of the UN, this will be a good time to stock take and review the organization. This session sought to develop communication, outreach, coalition building, and harness synergies for intergovernmental review.

William Pace, WFM-IGP, informed participants about the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, which took place in 1995. He began by discussing the founding of the United Nations in 1945 and the emergence of the UN Charter that occurred despite the political and military chaos during that time. Since its establishment, the UN has effectively fulfilled its role until now by preventing World War III. In his last book, Joseph E. Schwartzberg, who passed away recently, called for a transformation of the UN system and a workable world. Neither the UN Charter nor the UN have ever been perfect, and as such, calls for UN reforms have continued since its establishment.

The 50th anniversary marked the largest gathering of heads of government in history at that time. This anniversary was held at an exceptional time of history, when a series UN summits were hosted throughout the world from 1992-1996. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had introduced the Agenda of Peace, followed by the Agenda for Development and then the Agenda for Democracy. **Following the 50th anniversary, all the main committees of the General Assembly passed stocktaking resolutions that offered prospective recommendations for action.¹ The Sixth Committee passed a resolution proposing the establishment of the International Criminal Court.** In 1995 and 1996, the GA launched major high-level commissions and committees regarding UN management and a reform agenda for the UN, which continue to function today. A key development was that small and middle power countries and emerging democracies came together and were no longer held subordinate to the big powers. These small and middle power countries came in to partnership with thousands of civil society organizations.

He also noted the importance of a number of important initiatives that took place outside of the United Nations. In 1995, the Organization of African Unity, under the leadership of Mandela, established the African Union Charter. There was the creation of sub-regional organizations in Africa and a fundamental strengthening process began under the umbrella of the 50th anniversary.

However, today governments are not yet taking the initiative towards 2020 and beyond. Through UN2020, civil society should begin the process of stock-taking and evaluate where the UN Charter and the UN system are today, in an effort to preserve multilateralism. Consideration of where we are now is absolutely necessary to try to improve the political situation and make it through the century.

He concluded with the remark that he hoped this meeting would launch a range of initiatives that would begin the process of stocktaking and agenda-setting to successfully implement the SDGs, bridge the gap between peace, security, human rights, and sustainable development, and allow the United Nations to flourish to celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2045.

Richard Ponzio, *Stimson Center*, provided lessons learned from 2003-2005 in the context of high-level panels and the 'In Larger Freedom' report. He started by providing a snapshot of this period in history by noting that this was a tumultuous time for the United Nations with the ongoing Iraq War. He outlined a number of lessons learned from this time period. First, he noted that a lot could be accomplished in a short time period. He discussed the development of a high-level panel by Kofi Annan as an instrument with a top-down approach. The panel produced the 'In Larger Freedom' report in just two years, which ultimately felt rushed and limited space for civil society participation. He also noted the establishment of the Cardoso panel on UN-Civil Society Relations which completed its report in 2004.

Notwithstanding the opposition of US Ambassador John Bolton appointed on an interim basis by President Bush, a lot was accomplished, including the development of a peacebuilding architecture and

¹ See UN 50th Anniversary Commemoration – Press release here: <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/un-50th-anniversary-commemoration-press-release-2/>

the adoption of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P). Second, he noted that high-level panels should be put on the radar of civil society, as they have the ability to test the waters with political leaders and serve as an avenue for civil society engagement with Member States. He concluded by identifying key actors with which to engage towards 2020, including the President of the General Assembly, the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly, the independent Friends Group on the Future of the United Nations, and the UN 75 Group (if one is established).

Orsolya Bartha, *International Disability Alliance*, discussed the UN Post-2015 and the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals. She started by discussing the outcomes from the 2012 Rio+20 Earth Summit, which included the 'Future We Want' document defining 'other stakeholders', the call for the establishment of the SDGs, and the establishment of the High-level Political Forum. The implications of these outcomes were the following: The Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals was launched in January 2013; civil society was invited to engage in the sustainable development processes; A/RES/67/290 established the High-level Political Forum in 2013; the SDGs were agreed upon in 2014; and HLPF began to fully function in 2015. Of these, she noted that the most important outcome was the modalities resolution A/RES/67/290 because it outlined stakeholder engagement by defining the rights of stakeholders to access official documentation, make interventions, and organize side events on their own accord at the High-level Political Forum. She emphasized that the rights defined in the HLPF modalities are the most critical / advanced in the entire UN system, which can serve as a basis towards 2020 ideas. At the same time, she also highlighted that for civil society it is important to pay attention to the review of the HLPF modalities resolution during the spring of 2020, as it will offer an opportunity to reform the body into a true accountability mechanism.

Sarah Dayringer, *Global Policy Forum*, discussed the Secretary General's three reform tracks: Peace and Security, the repositioning of the UN Development System, and Management reform. She noted that the UN Development System would be the main focus of her talk. She informed participants that A/RES/72/279 was agreed upon by Member States to better implement the SDGs at the country level where UN Country Teams exist. In addition, she highlighted an effort to improve transparency of the UN Development System, specifically in regard to funding and donor influence. There should be an effort to increase core funds, rather than earmarked funds, and an effort to decrease donor agendas. She noted that there is a strong emphasis from some countries to bring in corporate partner input into UNCT frameworks. Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator, said at an Executive Board meeting that there was a need to find a formula that can help countries to synthesize investments in broad private capital without surrendering the national economy to the private sector interests. Lastly, she mentioned that a multi-stakeholder task team was created to develop common minimum standards of engagement with UN Country Teams in order to gain civil society input into this process. The task team has the potential to engage at the grassroots level. She concluded by noting that these processes are ongoing and should be continually monitored by civil society.

Fergus Watt, *UN 2020*, closed the informative portion of this session by discussing the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the United Nations. He stated that the UN 2020 initiative began in early

2017 as a civil society led initiative during a time when there was considerable uncertainty surrounding the UN due to a new Secretary General taking office and a new US President with his own agenda. The purpose of the initiative is to engage a variety of stakeholders in the stocktaking and reform processes of the United Nations as the 75th anniversary approaches. There is a strong emphasis on complementing the three reform tracks proposed by the Secretary General. The initiative also aims to generate synergies among the plus-five processes and give governments a reason to build bridges between human rights and other major review processes in 2020. He mentioned that three dozen bilateral meetings have already been held related to the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Revitalization of the UN (AHWG) which adopts an annual resolution about a range of steps to make the GA more effective. At these meetings, they were able to encourage governments to speak about the idea of the 75th anniversary of the UN that led to an operative paragraph calling for timely preparatory processes. While this language was in the draft, there was some opposition from members of the Non-Aligned Movement that led to its deletion. He noted that while the UN 2020 initiative does not have a mandated process yet, it does have considerable support from Member States. It is likely that there will be a need for a stand-alone resolution requiring the appointment of two co-facilitators to define the modalities of a 2020 Summit, that includes a call for the adoption of a political declaration much like the Mandela Summit resolution. He concluded by remarking that in order for civil society to be effective, they must fuse their own thinking with government thinking to improve the United Nations beyond its 75th anniversary in 2020.

Discussion

An open discussion followed where participants were able to share their comments and perspectives on this first session, which mainly focused on UN reform. The following remarks were made by participants:

1. The role of the General Assembly should be strengthened vis-à-vis the Security Council.
2. Small and middle power countries, including emerging democracies, should lead this process.
3. The role of civil society at the United Nations must be strengthened. This could be done through coalition building with Member States who are in support of greater civil society engagement, with an emphasis being on the partnerships. Global governance includes all of us.
4. Modalities resolutions should embody a multi-stakeholder nature.
5. The crisis of multilateralism should be addressed by revisiting the role of stakeholder engagement and the participation of social movements on the ground. Multilateralism is the product of the nation state. Critical social movements are missing. For example, the most important discussions about peace in the Korean Peninsula are led by social movements on the ground. People-centered multilateralism is not possible without public funding.
6. The lessons learned from past reform initiatives are as follows:
 - a. Moments from the past cannot be recreated because of the specific political constellations around them, and present moments must be taken advantage of;
 - b. Formal and informal processes should be used in the effort towards 2020;
 - c. What is the nature of civil society participation and who is civil society? What is external stakeholder participation? Business is defined as an 'other' stakeholder; and
 - d. Instead of designing perfect processes we should focus on what mechanisms are available and what their impacts can be. There is not a perfect outcome.
7. We must develop key recommendations for the HLPF review to take place 2019-2020 during the 74th session of the GA.

8. In terms of the UN 2020 initiative, there is as yet no clearly developed process for global engagement. There has been a civil society “call to action” rooted in the outcome of the Ad Hoc Working Group resolution, but that document needs to be updated.
9. Civil society should be encouraged to initiate or support high-level panels appointed by the Secretary-General in an effort to stimulate governments and ministers to engage in the process.
10. After bilateral meetings with multiple governments, it is evident that member states are not yet prepared to begin planning for the 75th anniversary. There is a ‘summit fatigue’ by governments that civil society must challenge.
11. Security Council expansion is an important topic which should be considered under the UN reform. Africa is the only region of the world without permanent representation in the Security Council. The Savannah Center based in Nigeria will conduct dialogues in the different regions in Africa with the hope to clearly define the main messages that Africa will bring to the table in light of the 75th anniversary. There is also a hope that the African Union will contribute to a commemoration of the 75th anniversary at a high level.
12. There should be a clear definition of what different sectors of civil society will want after 2020. Critical social movements must be included in the dialogue. It is also important to think about building resilience against donor influence and political backlash.
13. We need to translate the technical language at the UN into messages that ordinary people will understand. How can the most marginalized be included in the UN budgetary process?
14. More emphasis should be devoted to the closing of the gender equality gap. This should be discussed as 2020 will be also the occasion to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Beijing conference.

Reflections & lessons learned from past UN reform initiatives Key Highlights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urge the President of the General Assembly to initiate a resolution to define the modalities of a 2020 Summit that includes a call for the adoption of a political declaration.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 75th anniversary modalities resolution should include the NGO participation rights defined in the HLPF resolution A/RES/67/290, which are among the most advanced set of rights in the UN system. The review of the HLPF during 2019-2020 will also offer an opportunity to reform the UN system into a true accountability mechanism.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 75th anniversary summit should accelerate and complement the SG’s three reform tracks on peace and security, UN development system and UN management.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 75th anniversary summit should aim to generate synergies among the plus-five processes, including the SDGs and Paris Agreement, as well as other major UN review processes in 2020.²
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a smart coalition of small and middle powers in partnership with diverse coalition stakeholders to promote ambitious UN reforms that do not require great power support.

² UN anniversaries and reviews in 2020 include renewed INDCs mandated by Paris Agreement, second 4-year cycle of HLPF/SDGs, Beijing+25, 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, Copenhagen+25, 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, Peacebuilding Commission 15 year review, UN Human Rights Treaty Body review, Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework Conference, among others.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support multi-stakeholder panels appointed by the Secretary-General or initiated by civil society to test the waters with political leaders and provide an avenue for civil society engagement with member states.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the example of action taken after the 50th anniversary, after the UN2020 Summit, all the main committees of the General Assembly should pass stocktaking resolutions that offer prospective recommendations for action.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the PGA, key actors to engage include the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the GA (AHWG), the Friends Group on the Future of the United Nations, and the UN 75 Group (if one is established).

11:30am – 12:45pm: Roundtable Discussion: Transforming the UN in the 21st Century – Global Campaigns and Regional Perspectives

Moderator: Sara Burke, *FES NY*, began the roundtable discussion by posing two questions:

1. What are the outcomes civil society wants after 2020?
2. Who are the target audiences for achieving these outcomes?

Yiping Cai, *DAWN*, discussed the specific challenges faced by the feminist movement and future opportunities for civil society engagement. As a general observation, the panelist emphasized that it is not only a question of how the institution is responding to the crisis of multilateralism, but also a question of whether the institution is part of the crisis. As part of the multilateral crisis, it is important to speak about the social contract, which is broken and must be renegotiated. Gender equality is just one aspect of the social contract however; it is intersectional. Challenges experienced by the feminist movement include the fragmentation of issues and diverse processes, including the UN process, the global governance process, and UN language which often times redefines the women’s agenda. Fragmentation leads to siloed approach, which makes advocacy difficult. As an example, the addressing of sexual and reproductive health and rights by the UN system was given. Even within the UN institution, this issue has been handled in different ways, that leads to further division and fragmentation of the system. For example, UNESCO will pick up on sexual education, UNFPA on the SRHR, ECOSOC will address it under the Commission on the Status of Women and Commission on Population and Development, the Human Rights Council will look at it in the context of violence against women, and UNDP will examine the social aspects. For civil society, following all these different processes and platforms will remain a challenge. While the opportunities for engagement include participating at the UN as a norm-setting space, there are other institutions like the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) which are not open for civil society participation. In this sense, it is necessary to engage with the UN. There are other spaces in which civil society should mobilize and identify powers from different layers (including visible, hidden, and invisible power) and different spaces (including closed, invited, and open spaces). She concluded by stating that there is a need to develop a strategy to address all different dimensions of power and spaces to build collaboration and synergy towards 2020.

Stephen Chacha, *African Philanthropic Foundation*, offered information about the African Agenda 2063. He started by framing the context of his discussion on the question of whether the UN still has the same legitimacy that it did when it was founded in 1945. For Africa, UN legitimacy comes from the UN strengthening and promotion of African unity. African unity is being pushed for in the African Agenda 2063, which promotes a common agenda for Africa developed by governments and civil society members. He noted that the achievements of African unity at the regional level mirror those of the global level. As an example, he highlighted the strong position of Africa during the Open Working Group negotiations, when the African countries were able to have a joint position which was negotiated in collaboration with African civil society. Moving towards 2020, it is of key importance to influence the African Union at a high level to become a champion for changing the global governance system, so that more can be achieved. At the global level, there is a strong need for the UN to do a self-reflection and assess itself as an institution to become more effective. For Africa, part of this self-reflection should encompass the expansion of the Security Council to include Africa in this decision-making organ as well as the strengthening of the General Assembly vis-à-vis the Security Council. He stated that these changes would improve the effectiveness of the UN in Africa, particularly when looking into the peacekeeping operations. The ongoing UN Development System reform should aim to create a people-centered UN that is complemented and supported by regional and national processes. His last recommendations were that the UN should focus on incorporating stakeholders into the decision-making process, reconsider how they offer support and expertise to countries, and respond to the local/grassroot needs of Member States. The current composition and funding of the Resident Coordinator system may jeopardize the way that the UN works at the country level.

Emilia Reyes, *Equidad de Género*, began the discussion by informing participants about the High-level Political Forum Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS). She took a critical view of the United Nations by stating that the UN agenda can be superficial. In one way, the UN adopts shallow activities, such as the facilitation of dialogue, but also holds it in their mandate to solve the world's most critical problems. She highlighted other issues such as the corporate capture of Member States at the national level that has become a part of the reality of the UN as well. As a consequence, there is not only a lack of policy space for MGoS but also for Member States. Some significant problems are the North-South tensions, colonial practices in regard to trade dynamics, and major structural inequalities. The speaker strongly emphasized that prior to the consideration of any UN reform processes, in particular to institutional aspects, the focus should be on the political economy. Globally, the concentration of wealth rests with 100 companies (responsible for 75 percent of carbon energy), while the poorest continents are subsidizing the tax haven of rich countries' concentrations, and racism is growing worldwide. These are the issues that should be at the core of UN reform. Reform aspirations must be undertaken through a human rights lens, by strengthening the human rights framework. Today, it is difficult to uphold the UN agenda when human rights defenders are threatened on the ground in countries where people can be jailed or even killed. The MGoS Coordination Mechanism is an alliance of different stakeholders, that also brings on board those who have lost faith in the UN. That is a value in itself. The HLPF has failed to uphold the Sustainable Development Agenda because it does not hold governments accountable. The 2030 Agenda, with all its components (Habitat, Paris, DRR) linking the 3 dimensions of sustainable development, should be interpreted as a human rights issue. Humanitarian issues are important,

however, today they just address the resources but not the root causes. There is a strong need to bring back power to the United Nations by retaking the public space.

Shaima Aly, Kenana Association for Sustainable Development and Women Empowerment, Cairo, discussed the Sustainable Development Goals and Women's Empowerment in the MENA region. She began her discussion by highlighting two key challenges which the MENA region faces: (1) women's empowerment and (2) migration and displacement. She mentioned that women's empowerment and the SDGs will be related to the reform of the UN and the momentum towards 2020. In order to influence the processes towards 2020, it is critical that women are included in the decision-making processes at UN offices in the MENA region. Currently, women are in leadership positions in less than 35% of UN offices in this region. She went on to discuss the specific challenges faced by displaced women in the Arab region, including the importance of Security Council Resolution 1325. There are specific humanitarian, political, and economic needs of women in the Arab region, especially for internally displaced women and women in post-conflict zones. Many times, internal displacement is a life sentence for women. She recommended an increase in lobbying to enforce Resolution 1325. She also encouraged participants to think about the pillars of UN reform. From her point of view, an inclusive approach towards 2020 should be taken to create a unified vision. She noted the necessity of a process which focused on social development, sustainable natural resources and the role of women in managing these resources, and regional integration. There is a need to highlight good governance and resilience with a focus on institutional development. She noted that there is a lack of understanding of the UN in the MENA region, and as such, capacity building should be undertaken. She concluded by reminding participants that the process towards 2020 should be inclusive among civil society in order to leave no one behind.

Anselmo Lee, ADA, discussed the PyeongChang Appeal for Peace Initiative. He began by discussing the Peace Korea 2020 committee. PK 2020 is a group of civil society advocates in South Korea seeking to make the year 2020 a Kairos for permanent peace-building in the Korean peninsula by developing the "PyeongChang Agenda for Peace" (PCAP 2030). PCAP 2030 is the expected outcome of the PyeongChang Appeal for Peace process which is a long-term action agenda for peace aligned with the 2030 Agenda. In February 2019, the PyeongChang Global Peace Forum (PGPF) will take place as a joint initiative of the PyeongChang County Government, Gangwon Provincial Government, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Korea, in partnership with Korean International Broadcasting Foundation and Peace Korea 2020 Committee on the first anniversary of the PyeongChang Olympics. PGPF will be held to celebrate one year of the peace process in Korea. Peace and SDGs must be connected through: global governance, disarmament, conflict transformation, human rights, gender and environment. He also mentioned the push towards an 18th SDG for disarmament: Lives safe from UXO. He concluded by inviting participants to contact him if they are interested in participating in PGPF 2019. PGPF2019@arirang.com.

Fredrik Karlsson, Global Challenges Foundation, and Natalie Samarasinghe, UNA-UK, discussed the Global Challenges Foundation 'Getting from Here to There' Working Group. Fredrik started by introducing the Global Challenges Foundation as an organization which seeks to address and facilitate solutions for the

crisis of multilateralism and global catastrophic risks that humanity is facing. They undertook a process to refine and search the world for suggestions as to how to mitigate these crises. They sought to engage leaders, educators, storytellers, decision makers, and many others in order to collect views about these global catastrophic risks. They found a need for simultaneous solutions with clear urgency to combat these risks. Natalie added to the discussion indicating that she was a participant in this process and she believes the problem is in the lack of political will for reform, not in lack of ideas. The Working Group ‘Getting from Here to There’ was formed to get the system from where it is now, to where it needs to be to mitigate these crises. The group tries to address existing gaps which ignore complex issues, exhibit a mismatch of outcomes, lack a strategic multi-stakeholder approach, and lack trust and hope. To do so, the group is trying to: (1) create a shared space for stakeholders in the form of an online portal, (2) create a twin-track approach that looks at the short term and the long term, (3) support strategic approaches, (4) provide opportunities for better collaboration, and (5) build trust through shared values. Natalie concluded this discussion by stating that all input into this process is welcomed, as it has only just started. This working group is a shared endeavor, which connects and strengthens the movement to transform the global governance system.

<u>Transforming the UN in the 21st Century</u>	
<u>Key Highlights</u>	
Regional Perspective	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to influence the processes towards 2020, it is critical that women are included in the decision-making processes at UN offices in the MENA region. There are specific humanitarian, political, and economic needs of women in the Arab region, especially for internally displaced women and women in post-conflict zones, that highlight the importance of Security Council Resolution 1325. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving towards 2020, it is of key importance that the African Union become a champion for changing the global governance system. For Africa, UN legitimacy comes from the UN strengthening and promoting African unity. The African Agenda 2063 promotes a common agenda for Africa developed by governments and civil society members. At the global level, including Africa in the Security Council is a key priority and the UNDS should create a people-centered multilateralism by supporting regional and national participation of civil society. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February 2019, the PyeongChang Global Peace Forum (PGPF) will take place on the first anniversary of the Winter Olympics to celebrate one year of the peace process in Korea. Peace and the SDGs must be connected through global governance, disarmament, conflict transformation, human rights, gender and environment. 	
Global Campaigns	
<p>The Global Challenges Foundation seeks to address and facilitate solutions for the crisis of multilateralism and global catastrophic risks that humanity is facing. The Working Group ‘Getting from Here to There’ held a strategy session on 14 October to prepare for the launch of a global governance reform campaign taking place at the Paris Peace Forum, 11-13 November. The campaign, subsequently branded ‘Together First’, seeks to mobilize civil society by creating (1) shared space for stakeholders in the form of an online portal, (2) twin-track approach that looks at the short-term and the long-term, supported by multi-stakeholder panels which will help to identify key ‘next steps’ and longer-term objectives in key areas of risk, (3) support strategic approaches, (4) provide opportunities for better</p>	

collaboration, and (5) build trust through shared values.

- Women’s empowerment and the SDGs will be related to the reform of the UN and the momentum towards 2020. Challenges experienced by the feminist movement include the fragmentation of issues and diverse processes, including the UN process, the global governance process, and UN language which often times redefines the women’s agenda. There is a need to develop a strategy to address all different dimensions of power and spaces to build collaboration and synergy towards 2020.
- The MGoS HLPF Coordination Mechanism is an alliance of different stakeholders, that also brings on board those who have lost faith in the UN. This is a value in itself. The HLPF has so far failed to uphold the SDGs agenda because it does not hold governments accountable.
- The 2030 Agenda, with all its components (Habitat, Paris, DRR) linking the 3 dimensions of sustainable development, should be interpreted as a human rights issue. Reform aspirations must be undertaken through a human rights lens, by strengthening the human rights framework.
- Prior to the consideration of any UN reform processes, the focus should be on the political economy. The concentration of wealth, corporate capture of governments, North-South tensions, tax havens, colonial practices in trade policy, and major structural inequalities should be at the core of UN reform.

1:00pm –2:00pm: Lunch Discussion with H.E. Vladimir Drobnyak (Croatia): Prospects for a 75th UN Anniversary Leaders Summit

Moderator: William Pace, WFM-IGP, began by introducing H.E. Vladimir Drobnyak’s background and asked him to focus on three key areas: multilateralism, revitalization of the General Assembly, and the 75th anniversary of the UN.

Vladimir Drobnyak, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations, New York, began by discussing multilateralism. He noted the increase in the use of the term “multilateralism” since the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, when the term was not used a single time. In 2018 during the UNGA opening, multilateralism was one of the most commonly used words. He stated the need to maintain multilateralism as a rule-based international order, especially during this critical time period when it is being fundamentally threatened. To maintain multilateralism, UN reform is crucial. Reforms can be initiated by the Secretary General, such as his reform packages on the UN development system, management, and disarmament/peace and security, or as an interaction between UN pillars, or by a siloed approach. Other sets of reforms can be initiated by the General Assembly, such as revitalization of the UNGA by adopting a resolution and the reform of the Security Council, which requires change of the UN Charter. Migration reform will be adopted in Marrakesh. A large obstacle to reform that exists is the practice of adopting resolutions by consensus to make the resolutions more legitimate by securing the support of all 193 Member States.

He went on to discuss the last resolution adopted by the UNGA, from the Ad Hoc Working Group on GA Revitalization, A/RES/72/313, and its shortcomings. There were three shortcomings of the resolution: First, any reference to the 75th anniversary of the UN was dropped from this resolution, due to the lack of consensus. Second, the resolution was unsuccessful in aligning the 2030 Agenda with the GA Agenda. Various groups of Member States have different views on how to avoid duplication/ overlap and how to make the work of the GA simpler. Some important elements might be dropped from the table, despite others saying that without focus there is no progress. Lastly, a code of conduct for election campaigns for the President of the General Assembly could not be agreed upon and will be re-discussed next year.

He also expressed concern that the GA should begin preparing a resolution for the upcoming 75th anniversary now. He recalled the 70th anniversary when A/RES/69/316 was passed to provide official dates and structure to the high-level debate that took place only three weeks later on 1-2 October 2015. A mandate was given to negotiate a declaration with a focus on the “maintenance of international peace and security”. While the declaration was negotiated during the 69th session of UNGA, its adoption as a commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the UN happened during the 70th session on 23 October 2015 (A/RES/70/3). In fact the passage of A/RES/69/316 preceded the adoption of the 70th anniversary declaration by only 43 days. Thus, he recommended that the modalities resolution setting the stage for the 75th anniversary should be adopted two sessions in advance during the 73rd session. Moreover, while A/RES/70/3 was adopted only 3 years ago, it lacked words such as ‘climate’ and ‘technology’, and ‘reform’ was mentioned only once.

He concluded by discussing the most important issues to be raised during the 75th anniversary session. First, the GA Agenda must be streamlined and modernized to match emerging issues. Second, by reforming in light of Article 109, the UN Charter should attempt to be altered to allow for a more effective, and timely, UN. Some areas to be addressed are the size of the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council, and the enemy state clause. Lastly, the new global threats and realities that the world faces, such as climate change, technological revolution, and disarmament should be discussed. He noted that preparing a declaration for the 75th anniversary is challenging, and the PGA will most likely appoint two co-facilitators, who will aim to achieve consensus. The Revitalization of the GA process will continue; however, in consideration of the short time until 2020, a separate GA process for the 75th anniversary should be started.

Discussion

An open discussion followed where participants were able to share their comments, perspectives, and questions on the 75th anniversary. The following remarks were made by participants:

1. An elaboration on the points made regarding the new and emerging threats would be helpful. Should the formal and classic interpretation of the three pillars be revisited? Will reopening the Charter possibly lead to a worse outcome? What is the best approach to preserve and improve it?
 - a. Response: The intergovernmental nature of the processes should be maintained. In addition, the benefits and consequences of each threat should be weighed, paying particular attention to new technology.
2. The ability of the General Assembly to solve the issue of human rights and dignity for all was questioned. The participant compared the response of the GA to the Ebola crisis and the crisis of

violence against women. The lack of high-level forums to address critical human rights abuses against women was noted.

3. How can the defiance of certain countries opposing a modalities resolution for 75th anniversary be overcome? Also, how can the goals of the 2030 Agenda be met?
 - a. Response: This is the power of consensus in adopting resolutions. If consensus can be reached, then milestones can be achieved.
 - b. SDGs were negotiated in an intergovernmental process and adopted without vote.
4. An explanation of the budgetary aspect of the 75th anniversary and the impacts of certain Member States not agreeing to the allocation of additional resources for the event was asked.
5. An elaboration of the process of UN Charter review would be helpful
 - a. Response: Article 109 discusses a general conference of Member States with the purpose to review the UN Charter. The 75th anniversary would be a good time to start this general conference. Clarity of the agenda.
 - b. The most important word in the UN system is intergovernmental, which must be maintained.
 - c. Two options: (1) renew/ start general conference (2) incorporate it into the 75th anniversary (but this would be ambitious)
6. An identification of countries in favor and against UN reform was asked.
 - a. Response: All 193 Member States are in favor of UN reform, but there is disagreement about the scope of reform.

Prospects for a 75th UN Anniversary Leaders Summit Key Highlights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain multilateralism, UN reform is crucial. Reforms can be initiated by the Secretary-General, such as by his three reform packages; by the General Assembly, such as the revitalization of the GA by adopting a resolution; and the reform of the Security Council, which requires a change of the UN Charter. A major obstacle to reform is the practice of adopting resolutions by consensus.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were three shortcomings to the last resolution adopted by the UNGA from the Ad Hoc Working Group on GA Revitalization, A/RES/72/313. First, any reference to the 75th anniversary of the UN was dropped from this resolution, due to the lack of consensus. Second, the resolution was unsuccessful in aligning the 2030 Agenda with the GA Agenda. Lastly, a code of conduct for election campaigns for the President of the General Assembly could not be agreed upon and will be discussed again next year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding the upcoming 75th anniversary, the GA should give ample time for member states to negotiate the political declaration by adopting the modalities resolution during this session of the GA. The Ad Hoc Working Group on the revitalization of the GA process will continue; however, in consideration of the short time until 2020, negotiations for a separate modalities resolution for the 75th anniversary should begin now.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassador Dobnjak recommended the following agenda items for the 75th anniversary session. First, the GA Agenda must be streamlined and modernized to match emerging issues. Second, in light of Article 109, consideration of a general conference to amend the UN Charter should be discussed to address the size of the Security Council, the status of the Trusteeship

Council, and the enemy state clause. Lastly, new global threats and realities should be addressed, such as climate change, technological revolution, and disarmament.

2:00pm – 3:30pm: Strategies and Tactics: Making 2020 Count

Moderator: Stephen Chacha, *African Philanthropic Foundation*

Barbara Adams, *Global Policy Forum*, discussed synergies and opportunities of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. She started by discussing the IPCC report which detailed the need for urgency of action against climate change. She stated that climate change is continuously being considered a long-term problem, yet this is an immediate existential threat. Climate change has a direct impact on the availability of land to produce nutritious food and feed the world's people. Its scope is cross-cutting, and in this sense, the SDGs require joint thinking. Reflecting on the SDGs, Barbara emphasized that no SDG can be achieved at the expense of another, due to the interconnectedness of the goals. Further, the SDGs are universal and must be realized in all the countries. In this sense, they are different from the MDGs, and key to a post-colonial agenda.

As long as there is tax evasion, illicit financial flows will block the realization of the SDGs. She proposed that the way the UN is funded must be changed. It is important to look at the bigger picture regarding why the SDGs are not being achieved: one answer is financing, not only the quantity but primarily the quality of funding. She noted that three donor countries fund 45% of the UN development system, with most funds strictly earmarked for specific projects not for the UN's core activities.³ She concluded that the way forward is through better funding. As long as funding is controlled by donors, only what is funded will be implemented. In light of this, the speaker offered three strategic recommendations: (1) The way the UN is funded must be changed (2) Funding of the UN development system must be changed. Only 12 percent of the entire UNDP budget, for example, is allocated to its core business, while the rest of the funding is earmarked. Strict earmarking should be abolished. (3) Development must be funded through more reliable funding sources. While the UN has mandatory funding for peacekeeping operations and humanitarian agendas, there are not sufficient non-earmarked funds allocated for development. If the UN is not properly funded there won't be any reform. Quality funding is a necessary if not sufficient condition for reform. For the UN and multilateralism, two things are vital to address: (1) inequalities and (2) accountability.

Ben Donaldson, *UNA-UK*, discussed campaigns and mobilization to engage the UN and Member States. He noted that the UN2020 initiative is the start of the NGO community uniting, but there is also a need

³ "In 2016, three donors (the United States, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Germany) accounted for 45 per cent of contributions received from Governments and 35 per cent of total contributions to the United Nations development system." See A/73/63-E/2018/8, para 38.

to move out of the New York bubble to engage in substantive work. Ambitious substantive achievements (SDGs, Paris, Nuclear Treaty, etc.) always have civil society push behind them. He shared lessons from campaigns that he has worked on by noting that ambition from Member States rarely comes without this push from civil society and that success depends on the ability of a community to unite and to reach multiple groups. In order to unify the movement, he suggested the adoption of a collegiate and cheerleading approach, and that everyone work on their own part of the 'puzzle'. He noted the importance of believing we are going somewhere. 2020 is just a station, and if Member States see us going in one direction then they will support us. The key is to establish links between daily life and the UN agenda, such as what the Landmines Treaty was able to achieve. In order to break out of the bubble, he suggested that participants start to convince others that the UN and global governance reform is relevant to everyone. To achieve reform, it is important that all are on board, so that global aspirations can be translated into global messages. We need a lot of messages and we need to use the media to create positivity and a collegial approach. We must see each other's successes as shared successes. He concluded by stating that a '#Together First' approach should be taken, in agreement with remarks made by the German ambassador during the last session of the UNGA.

Keith Porter, Stanley Foundation, discussed the United Nations and global governance. (He emphasized that his remarks reflect his own thinking and do not represent the Stanley Foundation's views.) He began by discussing how the global political landscape has changed over the last 25 years. Post-Cold War, the United States emerged as a leading power. However, it was unexpected that the US would voluntarily lead to the decline of its own hegemony or that the UK would diminish its global power by leaving the European Union. Where we are now China, India, and Brazil stand in very different positions than they did at the end of the Cold War. They are setting long-term economic objectives and frame trade. Despite this, they will routinely ignore institutions that are not in line with their priorities. It is hard to imagine where we will be with Security Council reform, now that UK and US power are declining. Leadership in global governance is shifting away from the US, Geneva, and Western hegemony, and the opportunity to reform these institutions has already passed. Other stakeholders play an ever-increasing role in solving the world's problems, and the ability of the institutions to adapt to the change in global governance depends on the ability of governments to incorporate non-state actors into the process. It is hard to discuss global health without Gates; transnational corporations have no seat at the table. Cities create policies in contradiction to the federal government. International organizations have been paralyzed by this new political landscape of new powers, new actors, and new venues, such as G20.

In his opinion, multilateralism is still alive and well, and there is solace in states understanding that the world's issues are too complex to solve independently. A problem well stated is a problem half solved. To improve global governance, a few things should be considered: (1) how the state-based system can be made more enticing for China, India, and Brazil, (2) how the power of non-state actors can be incorporated, (3) how the UN can continue despite diminishing support from the US, and (4) how the UN can adapt to a world where management, coordination, and bureaucracy are going out of style. There is a need for common sense cooperation as management goes out of style. The UN could focus more on self-coordinating standards, norm creation, being a platform for a variety of voices, and being a north star hub where multilateralism rests. He concluded by stating that he believes the obstacle to change and adaptation remains political will. Inspiration and enthusiasm are coming from something

new, not reforming something that is not working. The visions of the future are smaller scale to capture imaginations. Simple statements can drive public and political support. A brighter future and vision for a better world are being crafted.

Discussion

An open discussion followed where participants were able to share their comments, perspectives, and questions about the strategies and tactics towards 2020. The following remarks were made by participants:

1. Is the aim of this group to save the UN or to save the planet? Saving the people and planet is more daunting than saving the multilateral system. Must accommodate all stakeholders.
2. How can the strategies of this session ensure the move to a closer and reinvented UN (globalism vs patriotism and intergovernmentalism vs multi-stakeholderism)
3. There is a need to prioritize and define clear messages towards 2030.
4. Focus should be on what is achievable in the short term. There is a strong need for accountability measures to push the process forward and a need to discuss what the UN is doing well and what it should stop doing.
5. The successes of the UN should be celebrated to highlight the positive aspects of multilateralism.
6. The process towards the 75th anniversary should be responsive to voices around the world. There is a need to go back to the UN Charter and reclaim the principles of the UN at its founding.

Panelists responded as follows:

- **Barbara Adams:** There is a need to be pragmatic in the approach towards 2020. She stated that it is necessary to find ways to make things better for those being left behind. She disagreed that the UN is only relevant if the largest powers support it. The UN is relevant if it is relevant to the people. She stated that to address the current challenges, there is a need for a public sector which can provide decent education, health care, and other public services. This isn't a question of multilateralism versus multi-stakeholderism. Governments which participate at the UN, try to defend and promote their own national interests and protect their own sovereignty. To do so, they must cooperate with others. However, she believes too many issues are being pushed onto the global agenda and the global governance process is suffering because of it. The GA has to be reframed as a policy coherence chamber.
- **Ben Donaldson:** He stated that the positive changes that civil society would like to achieve require a strong vision. To do so, many people should be engaged in the process, including the storytellers and grassroots activists. The rise in the use of the term 'multilateralism' by member states at the UN is a symptom which requires a response from people who believe in it. He concluded that civil society must unite together and be expressive about its global values. He holds a strong belief that multilateralism is necessary.
- **Keith Porter:** He began by commending the audience for tackling the tough issues. He challenged participants to translate the danger of climate change into something tangible for the everyday person, because that will incite action. The collective vision which civil society hopes to achieve towards 2020 requires the cooperation of all countries. He noted that there should be an effort to show the value of the UN to people and the impact of international cooperation on everyday life. IPCC report declares 2040 as the climate change deadline, which implies urgency. It is hard to capture climate change through measures, due to its abstract nature. This makes it difficult to

jump on. UN countries need to work together. The UN has succeeded in its primary goal to stop world war, but what has it done lately? International cooperation and highlighting its importance are the keys. The UN would be a much easier sell if it were sold as existentially essential. Let's sell the UN. Let's make multilateralism (and the UN) relevant to the individual concerns of people.

Strategies & Tactics: Making 2020 Count Key Highlights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many synergies between the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. Climate change is considered a long-term problem, yet this is an immediate existential threat. Its scope is cross-cutting. In this sense, the SDGs require joint thinking. No SDG can be achieved at the expense of another due to the interconnectedness of the goals. Further, the SDGs are universal and must be realized in all the countries.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the UN is not properly funded there won't be any reform. Three countries fund 45% of the UN development system, with many funds earmarked for country-specific projects. While the UN has mandatory funding for peacekeeping operations and humanitarian agendas, there are not sufficient non-earmarked funds allocated for development. Strict earmarking should be abolished.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambition by member states rarely comes about without a push from civil society. The impact of NGOs in mobilizing public support has been demonstrated by previous initiatives such as the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the Coalition for the ICC, and 1 for 7 Billion Campaign. To achieve UN reform, it is important that global aspirations are translated into global messages.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN2020 initiative needs to move beyond the New York bubble by reaching out to multiple coalitions working on UN reform, adopting a collegiate approach that supports everyone working on their own part of the 'puzzle', and conducting awareness campaigns that make the links between daily life and the UN agenda.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The global political landscape has changed dramatically. Leadership in global governance is shifting away from the US and Western hegemony while China, India and Brazil are rising. International organizations have been paralyzed by this new political landscape of new powers, new actors, and new venues, such as G20. The ability of institutions to adapt to changes in global governance depends on the ability of governments to incorporate non-state actors.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The collective vision which civil society hopes to achieve towards 2020 requires the cooperation of all countries. There should be an effort to show the value of the UN to people and the impact of international cooperation on everyday life.

3:45pm – 5:00pm: On the road to the UN 2020 Summit and Beyond: Strategies/ Tactics

Moderator: Orsolya Bartha, *International Disability Alliance*, began the session by calling on participants to make proposals regarding what should be achieved during the 75th anniversary of the UN. The following remarks were made by participants:

1. *The way in which the international community funds multilateralism should be changed. First, multilateral funding should be increased. An example comparing the US contributions to the UN budget and the budget of the State of NY was given to stress the need for increased funding. This comment was challenged by another participant who asked if funding was the most important thing to achieve in 2020.*
2. *A move away from a state-based world is desirable. Concern that civil society is operating in a binary paradise by classifying all states or corporations as inherently 'bad'. There is a need to challenge the current power dynamics. How can a truly global partnership be built to achieve these proposals? Multilateralism must include multi-stakeholders.*
3. *The people should have the right to elect their own UN representatives – a UN Parliamentary Assembly – if the UN is to be more people-centered.*
4. *A realistic goal for civil society should be to establish a UN focal point within the secretariat to help civil society ideas be fed into the UN system.*
5. *There are underlying structural inequalities that Member States refuse to address, including the recognition of planetary boundaries, and the militarization of economies.*
6. *SDG 16 should be honestly addressed. The rule of law and justice for people in the world is not being adequately addressed. To achieve SDG 16, people need to believe in their governments and, in turn, believe in the UN. The UN has gotten away from its founding principles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*
7. *Funding should not only increase, but also be more ethical, that should include the elimination of earmarking.*
8. *In the face of increasing nationalism and anti-globalism, there should be a formation of global civics.*
9. *In 2020, there should be an established function which is independent of states but elected from the stakeholders. It needs to retain the legal bindings to the SDGs.*
10. *Nuclear weapons should be banned by 2020, i.e. the required number of member state ratifications on the Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty.*
11. *The commitments that already exist should be built upon, rather than trying to establish new commitments.*
12. *It is important that no one is left behind. Accessibility is important, in terms of closed captioning and language translation.*
13. *An index should be developed to identify where money goes and does not go. This could be useful for the civil society campaign and outreach efforts.*

The moderator restated some of the topics that the conversation focused on, including financing, SDG implementation, inequality, disarmament, and the institutionalization of civil society participation at the UN. She asked the participants if they had to pick 3 focus areas to promote in the future, which they would choose because a comprehensive, collaborative effort needs to be undertaken towards 2020. The following remarks were made by participants:

1. *There is no easy way to come to an agreement right away about the focus areas that the UN 2020 initiative should encompass. In terms of scope, it might be better to look at the issue areas which have been continually put off.*
2. *Participants were reminded that the Getting from Here to There Working Group offers a space for all of these ideas and agendas. It offers a strategy for the implementation of all focus areas.*

3. *The campaign towards 2020 should strictly focus on structural inequalities, because there has not been much progress in this area.*
4. *Climate change is one of the most important focus areas, following the call by the Secretary General to establish a high-level summit in 2019 centered around climate change. Climate change has a narrow window, and this issue area presents a chance to show the strength of multilateralism.*

The moderator asked participants to propose strategies to get governments to commit to UN reform and make it a truly transformative process. The following remarks were made by participants:

1. *Constituents and members of organizations should be consulted in this process.*
2. *A better understanding of the big picture of this initiative is necessary. This is a movement from below and a network is needed to carry out the leg work. However, perhaps a network is still not enough. Perhaps a breakthrough moment, such as a catastrophe or economic crisis is needed to get this off the ground.*
3. *The issues that were discussed all come under the umbrella of climate change. Climate change should be a main target for this initiative.*
4. *An analogy was given that this group was like a fleet of ships. Each ship has their own agenda, but everyone moves towards the same direction.*
5. *The diversity of the group of people should be maintained as this initiative takes off.*
6. *Discussions with the President of the General Assembly should be continued. Two facilitators, one from the North and one from the South, should be named. Advocacy towards the powerful countries should be undertaken, because there is strength in numbers.*
7. *In light of the urgency of climate change, civil society should not forget the basic linkages of issues. While it is ok to be urgent in the matter, the quality of work should not be sacrificed in urgency.*
8. *There may be a need to establish common definitions of such terms as multilateralism, climate justice, and other frequently used words within the group.*
9. *The way in which new players such as rising powers and different sectors are engaged should be carefully thought out.*
10. *The question of how civil society can build a moral ground when it comes to enforcing resolutions was surfaced.*

The moderator brought back the discussion and asked participants what they thought was the next step in this process, what could be achieved in the coming months and weeks, and what the ways in which these different civil society groups can work together were. The following remarks were made by participants:

1. *Before doing anything, different levels of engagement and consultation with member constituencies is needed. The goal of this initiative should represent all people, not just the people in the room.*
2. *More initiatives should seek to do what the PyeongChang Appeal for Peace Initiative is doing, i.e. organize a regional initiative and connect it to 2020.*
3. *8-10 Permanent Representatives to the UN should be targeted by UN2020 to go to the UN and ask the President of the General Assembly to start the process of preparing a resolution for the 75th anniversary.*
4. *The UN 2020 initiative is about creating change and supporting the process. There should be a focus on the issues which bring us together as well as the issues that matter to organization constituents.*

5. *A message to be delivered at the Paris meeting next year should be crafted. Try to build support for the message and take it through to 2020.*

On the road to the UN 2020 Summit and Beyond Suggested Next Steps
• Organize a side event on the topic of crisis of multilateralism
• Organize a webinar, which will reach people all over the world
• Engage in all opportunities, including Human Rights Day in December
• Spark a discussion of multilateralism in crisis at the HLPF Regional Commissions in 2019
• Develop a cross-cutting survey to hear the voices of people
• Consult with an expert group about writing a report

5:00pm – 5:30pm: Wrap-Up

Moderator: Fergus Watt, UN 2020 Coordinator, wrapped up the meeting with a few points. He recommended that participants focus on the immediate next steps to be taken. Immediate steps to take include engagement with the President of the General Assembly, closer collaboration between the Getting from Here to There Working Group and UN2020 – as well as with the Major Groups and other Stakeholders. Most importantly to bring this conversation to a wide variety of meetings at the national, regional, and intergovernmental levels. UN2020 is an opportunity for collaboration. He noted that beyond immediate steps, more time was needed to develop concrete conclusions.

He welcomed one final discussion regarding immediate steps; participants made these remarks:

1. *People should be brought to New York to engage in these discussions.*
2. *The UN 2020 website should be updated to provide better information about this initiative.*
3. *One week should be given for participants to share input into this process.*
4. *A consolidation of issue areas is necessary moving forward. The following summarize the main issue areas presented:*
 - a. *Funding*
 - b. *Rule of law*
 - c. *Climate change urgency and planetary boundaries*
 - d. *Economic and structural inequality issues*
 - e. *Global civic ethics*
 - f. *Emerging risks*
 - g. *Reform*
5. *Formation of communities around these issues is crucial.*
6. *The Getting from Here to There Working Group is looking to support proposals and plan some low-level panels.*

The moderator concluded the day by encouraging participants to engage with the President of the General Assembly in support of a civil society call for progress in developing a meaningful 2020 summit process. He thanked participants for their attendance at this important session.

Annex: Meeting Agenda

Time	Agenda item
9.30 - 9.45	<p>Welcome: Volker Lehmann, FES New York</p>
9.45 - 10.45	<p>Reflections and lessons learned from past UN reform initiatives Moderator: Jeffery Huffines, CIVICUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50th UN Anniversary (1995) - William Pace, WFM-IGP • 2003-2005 (HLP, In Larger Freedom) - Richard Ponzio, Stimson Center • 2012-2015 (Post 2015 & OWG SDGs) - Orsolya Bartha, Senior Advisor, International Disability Alliance • SG's 3 reform tracks - Sarah Dayringer, Global Policy Forum • Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the UN - Fergus Watt, UN 2020
11.15 - 11.30	Short break
11.30 - 12.45	<p>Roundtable Discussion: Transforming the UN in the 21st Century - Global Campaigns & Regional Perspectives Moderator: Sara Burke, FES New York</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HLPF Major Groups & Other Stakeholders - Emilia Reyes, Equidad de Género • Feminist Movement Engagement - Yiping Cai, DAWN • African Agenda 2063 - Stephen Chacha, African Philanthropic Foundation • SDGs & Women Empowerment, MENA region - Shaima Aly, Kenana Association for Sustainable Development and Women Empowerment, Cairo • PyeongChang Appeal for Peace Initiative - Anselmo Lee, ADA • Global Challenges Foundation Getting from Here to There Working Group - Natalie Samarasinghe, UNA-UK and Fredrik Karlsson, Global Challenges Foundation
13.00 - 14.00	<p>Lunch Discussion with H.E. Vladmir Drobnjak (Croatia): Prospects for a 75th UN Anniversary Leaders Summit Moderator: William Pace, WFM-IGP</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taking stock: the state of the UN System 2. Strengthening Multilateralism: Renewal, Innovation, Reform 3. Planned UN Agenda in 2020 (SDGs, Paris Agreement & Beijing+25) 4. Progress Update on the SG's UN Reform Packages

14.00 - 15.30	<p>Strategies & Tactics: Making 2020 Count Moderator: Stephen Chacha, African Philanthropic Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN & Global Governance - Keith Porter, Stanley Foundation • Synergies & Opportunities with 2030 Agenda & Paris Agreement - Barbara Adams, Global Policy Forum • Campaigning and Mobilization to engage UN and Member States - Ben Donaldson, UNA-UK
15.30 - 15.45	Short break
15.45 - 17.00	<p>On the road to UN 2020 Summit and Beyond: Strategies/Tactics Moderator: Emilia Reyes, Equidad de Género</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short, Medium, Long-Term Strategy for Reform (2018-2030), including vehicles for initiating an official intergovernmental process • Stocktaking, Review & Innovation (intergovernmental mandate) • Mobilize Diverse Constituencies • Identify 2020 Summit Themes, Modalities and Outcomes
17.00 - 17:30	<p>Wrap Up Moderator: Fergus Watt, UN2020 Coordinator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions, risks, concerns • Next steps • Recap and way forward - Orsolya Bartha, Senior Advisor, International Disability Alliance