

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

- prepared for the GFF Thematic Tracks Summary Website -

Co-Leads

- David Woollcombe, Peace Child International
- Nandini Harihar, CEEW

Track Summary

The Environmental Governance track explored 5 questions to guide its E-consultations. For the first six days, the co-leads hosted 2 x Zoom calls each day, one at 12 Noon GMT, the other at 17.00 GMT to enable participation from different time zones. The topics / questions were as follows:

1. **Introduction and Orientation**: What do we mean by Environmental Governance?
2. **How do we fill the Global Governance Gap?** What kind of “institutional arrangements” do we need robustly to protect the Biosphere for Future Generations?
3. **Trust and Accountability** - what kind of “institutional arrangements” do we need to ensure people, businesses and governments keep their promises?
4. **How can we harness the potential of Technology?** Can it help fill that Governance Gap? - is a “Digital UN of We the Peoples...” possible, or even desirable?
5. **How do we Finance this additional layer of Governance?** Should the UN be able to gather taxes from “We the Peoples...” or impose fines on corporations and governments?
6. **Geoengineering?** - is it a viable option if all else fails? What “institutional arrangements” do we need, globally, to manage and regulate initiatives in this field?

Process

David took careful notes from each Zoom Call and produced a series of Daily Updates which he gathered, along with the relevant written contributions, into a Digest of answers to each question.

We then produced a Zero Draft of Recommendations under 3 x headings which we sent to all 226 registered participants, inviting them to join one of 4 x Final Zoom Calls on at 12.00 & 17.00 on March 2nd & 3rd. From these, we prepared the Current Draft Recommendations for Citizens’ Input to the Environmental Governance Track of the People’s Pact for the Future which will be finalised to incorporate the ideas and suggestions generated by our Discussions at the GFF, by April 10th 2023.

Key Dates

- E-Consultation: February 8 to March 3

Additional Resources

- First Draft E-Consultation – Interim output report; (Final Draft due April 10 th)
- Reading List
- Essential background reading to this track: Partha Dasgupta’s Biodiversity Review states: “Governments almost everywhere exacerbate the problem by paying people more to exploit Nature than to protect it. A conservative estimate of the total global cost of subsidies that damage Nature is around US\$4 to \$6 trillion per year. And we lack the institutional arrangements needed to protect global public goods, such as the ocean or the world’s rainforests....” Read the Executive Summary and Chapter 21: Options for Change.
- Section V of the Road to 2023 Report, Climate Action and Governing the Global Commons; p46-54.
- Section III of the Rethinking Global Cooperation Report, Representing Succeeding Generations through a Declaration on Future Generations; p15-26.
- GGIN’s Summit of the Future tracker for the latest resolutions & negotiations.

NOTES

from the Global Futures Forum

March 20-22 2023

Nudhara – Introduction

- Intergenerational / Co-Leadership Model
- The How – not just the what
- A civil society Learning Journey: from UN75 Declaration, thru' OCA to SDG Summit, to Summit of the Future to the World Social Summit + 50. These are the Centre-piece Events of each of the next 3 years.

Opening Plenary: The importance of Civil Society

Amb. Fergal Mythen – Irish Ambassador: co-facilitate the Statement for the SDG Summit; he remembers John Gilroy, the Irishman who facilitated the 2015 SDG agreement. Civil Society helped drive that and we must do that again – they were the “magical Piece.” The CSW was similar. The SDGs are for all – but implementation was always going to be difficult. We can point to COVID, to conflicts – but even before these, implementation was behind the intention. The Progress Report from the S-G is due on April – it will show how badly we're off-track. But most importantly, how we can get back on track. We speak about Realism, we speak of Urgency – and we speak of HOPE! We need hope based on Action – not just nice words. In Ireland, the SDGs are hard-wired into our development agenda and government system – but every member state must do the same. A domestic + International aspiration. We're doing an VNR on the SDGs.

BUT – we must link the OCA to the SDGs – not to see the OCA replace the SDGs. We cannot give up on the SDGs. There is no divergence. We have to work in sync. In Sept. – we're looking for a renewal of vows in Sept. to the SDGs. We have to show that Multi-lateralism can work. The Oceans agreement showed that. We will therefore have a good, punchy statement renewing our vows to the SDGs,

Amb. Alya al Thani of Qatar: We need re-invigorated multi-lateralism; that is the key phrase – and we need to put the UN at the centre of our efforts. The reinvigoration of the SDG agenda is vital to our survival. The link between OCA and SDGs AND the Paris agreement is vital – they are all of a piece! Accelerated progress is needed on all of them and that will be at the heart of the political declaration.

A “Once in a generation chance”(S-G) to improve global governance – to deliver a fair, transparent and prosperous future for all. 3 x key words: Be Able to Deliver

HE AS-G Guy Ryder: USG for Policy Issues – focused on the OCA and the Summit of the Future. Civil Society has a central role to play in all the processes; you have been a big part of all it so far: Global Dec. UN 75 and OCA is all informed by your input. You are part of it. I worked 3 x decades on your side of the table – as civil society; We have the advantage of an S-G who really wants to make this work for you and us. Successful SDG summit this autumn is essential; don't blame Covid and Ukraine – failure was there from the get-go; Some of the reasons we're not delivering on the SDGs are due to structural issues. The linking obstacle to us achieving any of our goals is MONEY! Everyone asks: “Where's the money coming from?” The S-G has announced an intention to mobilise \$500 billion for the implementation of the SDGs. We need new drawing rights – and we have a year to sort this out.

Policy Briefs out now!

- Responsibility to Future Generations – published on March 9th;
- Emergency Response;

Policy Briefs Coming Up:

- Youth Participation Brief;
- Intl. Financial Architecture;
- Beyond GDP;
- Global Digital Compact;
- Code of Conduct on Fake News – Accuracy in Public Information;
- New Agenda for Piece;
- The Peace Continuum – from Conflict prevention to peace-building;
- Safe and Sustainable use of Outer Space;

- Education – building on the Transforming Education
- UN 2.0 – equipping the UN for its Data capacities;

Khalid Boudali, African Union Civil Society Grouping: “African Solutions to African Problems” is the mantra. It holds the key to opening windows and doors to prosperity. And Civil Society is that key! Agenda 26 – an agenda for African peace and prosperity to ensure “no one is left behind.”

African Union ECOSOC will organise accredited entry to the UN processes;

Aish Makani: (online) – UN is a platform for collaboration and a beacon for future generations; it has done this – eg. AIDS eradication and – no better example – than the SDGs; we’ve lost sight of the value of this multi-lateralism – focussing on narrow, short-term local interests. We need to re-ignite multi-lateralism to focus on the future. 3 x key things that need to happen

1. Leverage the upcoming summits to engage a wider discussion of these failures; A unique chance to convene and mobilise;
2. Young people will live to see the end of this century – we’re the people who will inherit the consequences of decisions made or not made by you; Youth-Led Action Group; Look at the ENGA group recommendations;
3. Over 70% of youth born this century will be born into low income countries – so we must address entrenched inequalities; We need a radical departure from existing business as usual. GFF is modelling that kind of leadership;

Maria Fernanda Espinosa: Despair and indifference are not policies; hope and act are active verbs! Why we’re here is to bring together participants from all regions, from all sectors – and we need them to reflect on the key issues of the Summit of the Future; The Sequence of Summits upcoming need to re-build the trust and the financing of the UN and make it fit for the 21st Century in actionable blueprints for transformation;

Fergal Mythen’s final thoughts: need to stress that OCA and SDGs are NOT in competition – and all are linked to 2025. We’re NOT walking away from the SDGs as a failed project.

Al Thani Final Thoughts: Guy Ryder’s presentation was very thorough – and shows us that nothing is coming out of nowhere: it is all linked back; we need your feedback;

Guy Ryder Final Thoughts: this pane is as one! We are working as one on this panel – and we all agree that you are all a part of this! And we are all committed that you can be a part of it. The Ambassadors of Germany and Namibia are co-facilitating the SotF; good luck in your forum.

Khalid Boudali Final Thoughts: African Free Trade areas is an example of African nations moving closer together. African civil society are not engaged in these UN Dialogues – we need a bridge to connect us! So figure out a way to construct that bridge.

Aish Makani: think of yourselves as a microcosm of the effective multilateralism that you want to see in the world; model the spirit of intergenerational activity & International

Maria: just thank you to all of you! Be Bold, Be Creative and Be Ambitious in your work these days;

NOTHING ABOUT GLOBAL OUTREACH!!

Open Society Guy: Theory of Change – we need to break the cycle of failure of UN Reform efforts.

1. Change must be rooted in bold, radical but do-able reforms
2. The who and the How are as important as the what: we should leverage the inside and outsiders to the process – and prioritise the civil society input;
3. Support major initiatives that have legs – eg. The Global Digital Compact
4. Improve performance of existing Intergovernmental agencies without any reform – just get to it!
5. Build the scaffolding of linkages so that we don’t operate in silos. We need to work in concert;

Sofia Bermudez: Youth input – “Youth is the missing piece...” 90% of speeches mention youth; we don’t want to be just at the table; we don’t just to be in the photos; we want to have ownership of decisions – we want to be integrated in the decision-making process; we want to be treated as equals. All so basic – but so far away in reality. How we going to do that? How we going to end tokenism?

1. a showcase for young people’s work and actions?
2. a way to reach more young people – to include more?
3. Young people on all the tracks
4. An open call to all youth researchers
5. We have enjoyed an excellent intergenerational experience with elders so far;

So – please – engage, meaningfully, with youth - in all these work tracks;

Jeffrey Huffines: Thanks to all Regional Fora organisers joining the dots from local, to national to regional to international. It is through regional engagement that we shall deepen our engagement with regional partners; down to national level through UN regional offices; and getting down to our mission to engage; Congratulate the AU C4UN Ecosoc group – who have forged a partnership with the AU; And we’re hosting the African perspective dialogue with African Missions to the UN – and CSO representatives.

Soon Young Yoon: Women were mentioned 55 times in the OCA – mainstreamed throughout the recommendations. Support for young female entrepreneurs; end gender-based violence.

So – the OCA opened the door to re-imagining the UN through a feminist lense; publishing a book to contribute women’s ideas: the Beijing Declaration, the CEDAW and CSW all need to be woven into the OCA declaration to create a feminist framework to build upon;

Need better disaggregated data – so that we have a better understanding of women’s health, employment, land ownership etc. Make Information a POPULAR public good – and co-create that data

Need better liaison between national bodies making Feminist Foreign Policy;

Need to bridge the Implementation Gap – esp. on gender-based violence, esp. at CSW; it is getting weaker, and it needs to get stronger;

Need more focus on intersectionality: women are not homogeneous – look at the contexts;

Peace and Security – not just the international context or domestic abuse; it has to be wider than that – and re-invent the position of women across the board;

The Power of the Feminist Movement must be integrated in all that we do±

It is the most wonderful movement of our time!

Dan Perell: Think of yourself as a Scientist! Test your evidence; Have we landed on the right recommendations; we need to look forward. Nothing is ever final – so don’t look for the perfect wording; look for the direction of travel. Let’s go far together – rather than go quickly alone; Build that coalition!! Articulate a journey!

Copenhagen Inst. Of the Future: Jonas G Mikkelsen and Nicholas Larsen: - joined online; representation of future generations – and neglected issues; Basic Toolkit of Futures Thinking;

1. Transformed Thinking: which of your present ways thinking could be radically different from your thinking now
2. What does the future ask of you?
3. Don’t try to predict the future – explore different possibilities; think possible and plausible outcomes;
4. Anticipate long-term impacts from short-term actions; Anticipatory governance = foresight
5. Think Sophie Howe’s work in Wales;
6. There are multiple futures in front of us;
7. Beware of Biases and Fallacies – based on sub-conscious and they lead to mis-interpretation of facts;
8. Beware linear projections – there WILL be shocks;
9. All won’t change at onceAccept
10. It’s not about Utopian or Dystopian futures;
11. Delay your Intuition; it may be regressive;
12. Explore the dynamics of change – the pushes, pulls, and weights = the Futures Triangle; Pull from the Future; push from the present – the weight of history.
 - What images of the Future do you see
 - Whose future is it?

- What are the timelines
- What are the drivers of Change
- What actions are necessary
- Read Farsight by Copenhagen Futures Institute

Think Bridgetown initiative – very bold

We need to be much more radical, more ambitious, and more bold. Step up to the plate

Respondent: HE Brian Wallace, from Jamaica: Responsible for the Decl. for Future Generations Dialogue; says that this is a new departure for the UN; looking at the longer term is unfamiliar to UN Diplomats; but we have to do it. It is a dynamic and interesting process; THANK YOU!!

Sandrine Sums Up and summarises:

- We need to future-proof the future! So we're inspired to move this forward.
- Reimagining the remaking and reconstruction of our global institutions; at the macro-level is where we need
- The importance of REAL, youth engagement – not Tokenistic;
- Deepen the discussion at REGIONAL levels
- Interrogate the discussions at the regional and the multilateral levels;
- Women's inclusion! – integrate feminist leadership; power profit makes many feminist leaders stand down
- Importance of People's Pact Process – and you need us to be even more radical, more ambitious than currently;
- The Limits to Growth are what we are living today – we should have done it much, much earlier;
- Chaos is the new today
- "We are not the most intelligent species – but probably not the wisest." (Jane Goodall)

Let's prove Jane wrong!

Remember your Unrealistic Aspirations

Notes from our session:

John's lead-off comments & recommendations:

The UN 'SotF' – deal with the gaps in global governance – in a Pact for the Future; we're here to create a Peoples Pact for the Future. We need to create it because we know that what our governments come up with be inadequate. We need to be there – because there needs to be a plan that is "ADEQUATE TO THE SCALE OF THE CHALLENGE."

A smart coalition of state and non-state actors. It works – witness ICC campaign and Landmine ban;

Short-term steps – the Quick Wins;

The key thing that pulls this all together – the deeper reforms we need for an effective and just agency; Sylvia and Arthur's paper; it needs to have enforcement powers – and it needs to serve the Common Good of humanity; I am commending this MEGA project to this track – as an initiative that would actually work. We face multiple crises – but it is the one crisis of the lack of Global Governance.

Maja's recommendations:

1. Deploy the Emergency Platform legislation to protect all planetary boundaries NOW;
2. Improve the COP process NOW
3. Using the human
4. Further empower the ICJ to do more to protect the environment – accelerate the current process;
5. Build the next generation environment authority; base it on the science;

Differentiate between: Global Commons = High Seas & Atmosphere & forests = Global Public Goods – Parliamentary Assemble – an accelerator not a final step!

Expand on New Technologies

6 x transformational shifts on the triple threat (see S-G's paper on April 18th)

1. regaining balance with nature
2. decarbonisation
3. upgrading the environment in the international system
4. Have in mind the Actual Pact for the Future – it doesn't have a climate or environment track: how do we weave it in – and connect it;

More on climate finance – and work in the High Seas treaty – very inclusive process; CSO's were in the room
Quick wins – must be by 2025

Bill Pace explains why the Rome Statute can prosecute and order the arrest of individual world leaders for the Crime of Ecocide. The big powers didn't want the ICC – because they didn't want a court that they couldn't control.

Ben: on behalf of YOUNGO –

On regulation, we want to move away from a doom information model; we want a participatory system – for youth – and build them into a part of the Active Ownership of our climate policy-making;
How to mobilise global finance? We need to show broader public ownership of net zero transition; we need to motivate young people to mobilise net zero strategies within private sector company. More corporations need to entrust young people

Trans Education: capacity building / emergency

Climate literacy is important to get YPs into

The lack of transparency

Danger of Youth Washing

Difference between Education and Transformative Ed.

Young people need to be trained to be able to lead the conversation at the table

THAT IS HOW WE WILL GO ABOUT THIS! They need to appreciate the complexities and nuances

Martha Rojas – economics of water; she has worked on this issue for decades and 3 x obstacles:

1. Build on existing conventions – CITES, RAMSA conventions; strengthen them – and enforce them; and link them; Work together with Montreal and the High Seas Convention.
2. Link the Agendas – climate biodiversity water
3. Increasing interest in Climate – but water is lagging

Alyn:

Better use of ICJ in application of environmental law.

There have been FOUR major proposals

1. Using existing process – I agree; More suggestions:
2. Increase the compulsory jurisdiction of the ICJ
3. Ensure that references to the ICJ are included
4. More requests for the ICJ advisories;

Earth Regulatory Body – could be done by re-purposing the Trusteeship Chamber; that could be done by the S-G

Blissman – Progressive Catholic Sisters: CSW agreed conclusions need to be woven into this process; esp. the 60-page youth submission – which was full of 20-pages of environmental recommendations;

Think systemically about how to weave them together with existing mechanisms

Gillian: The Red Dot foundation - TANGIBLE ACCOUNTABILITY: we have the conventions – but without the enforceability, they are useless. Non-binding isn't going to work;

Nandini: How do you get binding conventions? And what do you about countries who do not participate? Far greater participation in Paris than in Kyoto – BECAUSE Paris was non-binding, Kyoto was binding.

1. What is the consequence of countries NOT meeting their country?
2. Gillian: How – Member State Peer Review

Deborah – important to realise that, because of the crises we face, beware unintended consequences. Unless reforms are accompanied by public education and acceptance of new policies, they are going to be publicly rejected – witness: the Gilets Jaunes. Think about Citizen Government not just UN Procedures;

Anna Maddrick: Don't think that Ecocide law is going to have hard-hitting impact on ordinary citizens; it is not! But it is a first step. Ecocide law changes perception from "polluter pays" to "polluter should not pollute" My argument is Ecocide crime will bring this collective consciousness about the under-application of existing laws. No better way than identifying ecocide as a crime – that requires punishment.

Jacoba – link to peace and security; environmental governance is required to prevent future conflicts; they enforce collaboration. Institutionalise environmental peace-building office. Expand the existing office;

Farida: expand on water; very important;

John: Climate Governance report – has a report on Finance by Augusto Lopez; What we need is a parliamentary body at a global level. So we must start work on these list

PEACE & SECURITY

Vanda Introduces this: Young people globally are leading countless programmes – youth beyond the bomb, youth for peace – loads of groups doing amazing things.

- Youth are really good at seeing things from an inter-sectional perspective;
- Looking to collaborate on this!
- We need to do a better job at listening
- We are leading on the Digital Space – digital literacy and cultural diplomacy
- Nuclear storie – using the medium of stories to get the message across; bringing forward stories of uranium mining in Niger; Chernobyl stories; from a people perspective. www.nuclear_story.com Don't make them a note-takzer, don't just have youth as a tick-box; listen to, and act upon, youth ideas. Enable youth to take a lead!

Proposal ONE: Include Nuclear Abolition in the Post 2030 SDGs with the goal of complete Abolition by 2045; without this in place, the world cannot be truly sustainable. How do we get there? Japanese guy explains – GASPPA & group of friends: We are looking for friends in individual national governments;

- No one is safe until everyone is safe; independent relationship among states;
- Joint proposal from Hiroshima and Nagasaki prefectures; to replace SDG Goal 16 with the Abolition goal;
- Global Military Expenditure = \$2113 Billion of which \$82.4 Billion is spent on Nuclear Weapons
- So - build a bridge between Development and Disarmament;
- Stepping Stone to 2030
- Include TPNW in OCA update;

Proposal TWO: Article 26 Proposal – Security Council responsibility to regulate arms spending at the expense of development; in the USA - the People over Pentagon logo

Proposal THREE: UN Emergency Peace Service: UNEPS Rapid response force – a dedicated UN Service; Prevention and Protection are more effective when it comes in early; it's best to be known as an expected to deter aggression. Something the UN doesn't have at the moment. But it would act as a deterrent – and save trillions! And it would do what the UN was set up to do: save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.

How would it work? It would have to be authorised by the SEC. Council – but they wouldn't!

Ted Daley:

- Nations don't intervene unless their NATIONAL interest is involved. UNEPS would intervene if their COMMON global interest is involved.
- Let me volunteer for a global army
- Trinity Students brought to our attention the issue of sexual violence committed by UN Peace-keeping forces;

Cameroon Woman:

Thomas: Build a Nonagon – on top of the Pentagon – for Peace-building! And let it have the same budget as the Pentagon! And why 2045? Do it NOW – by 2030! So that Putin cannot threaten the use of nuclear weapons

Talanoa Dialogues:

OXFAM Story – of ESKOM power plant built in South Africa without scrubbers with the result that local children are born with eye problems and respiratory problems. A little boy died – and maybe 900 people will die because ESKOM keep saying that they don't have the money to install them. But the IFI's have given ESKOM money precisely to instal these scrubbers. So – environmental governance will provide the capacity to deliver law suits. That powerplant will give jobs to millions of people – so it is a public good. BUT – they need to have the consent of the local communities – and that is a negotiation that the African Union insists upon.

Interconnection Session:

What are the inter-relations between the 7 x tracks that we have been expanding?

- Open Brainstorming Session:
- What are the main advocacy points?
- UNICEF Poster: What do you want to be when you grow up? Alive if possible!
- Insurance / Loss and Damage – Polluter Pays transition to Polluter doesn't polluter
- Regulatory enforcement of Ecocide; Nothing else is working as we don't have the enforcement mechanisms; no way to punish non-compliance; nothing stimulates innovation like containment – and Ecocide on the Rome Statute is the containment we need to stimulate the innovation we need.
- Bill explains the rationale of the ICC: it adds a supra-national jurisdiction to enforce existing national law; so – if a nation is unable or unwilling to prosecute a crime against humanity, the ICC can step in and do the prosecution. That's a good model to follow.
- Polycentric governance – top-down and bottom-up governance. Complementarity of responsibility - from local to global;

Day Two:

Intergenerational Session:

1. Question about Education:
2. Intervention: I am an older women now – you are the older women of tomorrow. We must insist on life-course approaches.” We have made progress – but not enough. Not nearly enough. We have enough Declarations – we need action now
3. Question: at what point does intergenerational collaboration become intergenerational competition?
4. Question about the Disabled – and the absent Africans: where's the Inclusivity?
 - Make it easier for Africans to input the Declaration
 - Be honest – this is a Western-driven operations;
 - Why should Africans come to the UN? Why can't the UN come to us?

Answers from the Panel:

Inclusivity: watch the Regional Fora;

Mental Health – how important it is to have that support – esp. for youth suffering abuse; UN needs to open up safe spaces;

UN can help with education;

Kekashu: - intergenerational solidarity has to be the cornerstone of the agenda to 2030;

Maria: we have to have cooperation between generations;

Education: the current education is the most educated generated ever – but NOT universal access to education; it should be a right – not just primary and secondary – but lifelong learning; because of digital transformation – we need to have to be educated to distinguish between accurate and an inaccurate information;

If you want to have a real Pact for the Future – you must involve NOT just all generations; you need to have all countries at the table. Many countries do not have the conditions to implement the SDGs – they don't have the

money, they don't have the technologies; they are too indebted; they are too corrupted. What to do about them? Just give them the financial support? No – we need to re-balance;
S-G Youth Envoy guy: as Africans, to get funds to come to the UN, you have to be a registered organisation. Very difficult. (Not to mention visas....)

Nandini: short list of recommendations we have: what is the time line?

What are the substantive measures for each track?

What are the 3 x next steps on each of the 3 x tracks:

1. Transformative Education: Gaps - what are the technical gaps that are missing; young people of today are the ancestors of the people of tomorrow. De-Carbonisation, Triple Threat, Financing Models, wisdom of indigenous people; Values-based; de-carbonisation – and replacement of GDP – that is at the heart of it; Stop Ecocide – what is the educational change we need to drive forward; what is the economic agenda we need to drive forward;

CEEW – question: where is the democratic demand for this? There is a democratic divide and lack of interest in these issues; Especially in the Global Issue

Nandini: it has come up in our discussions – and the need for it as been seen by a priority by participants; Lauren – my peers don't talk about it – they're not bothered – but if it was front and centre, they would think more about it.

John – you, like me, feel we should be living within planetary boundaries – so where do CEEW feel is the democratic demand for this kind of education.

Latin American lady: - it's not simple – they

2. Stop Ecocide
3. MEGA Proposal

FINAL SESSION

German Ambassador – HE Antje Leendertse: SotF depends on the ability of Global North to raise \$500bn for the Global South to implement the SDGs. Big issues are the climate crisis, the digital challenges – but the BIG challenge is the absence of trust. We will start negotiating from February 2024 – for the Pact for the Future.

1. Global Governance Agenda

- Andreas Bummel
- Jap Ambassador: how to we engage the citizens in the Summit? Information should flow not just from the people to the UN but also from the people to the UN?
- How can the UN do less; if everything's a problem – then nothing's a problem;
- The UN must be self-financing;

2. Development Action Track: 4 x Tracks

- Updating the SDGs
- Operational Arrangements – finding ways to reach people; citizens more involved;
- Institutional arrangements – make people more involved
- GDP – a new measure?
- Making a Better Future happen – is the job of all of us!
- Teach the youth how to be able to change – done in their language – accessible language; if we cannot explain our strategy to a 10-year old it is probably the wrong strategy; so the curricula need to be update. So – education, education, education – this is the root of the problem;
- Adam Day: a lot of the HLAB proposals are reflected here; the system needs to make a normative statement on the breadth of risks and security; the Palme Commission – the peace-building commission has are identical

- “Every good idea that the Board had come up with, Richard Ponzio had published something on several years before!”
 - Global Financial Architecture must be re-purposed to develop resilience;
3. **Human Rights and Participation** – Report back from Ishan Shah(UK): 3 x recommendations
- Must be spread across all 7 x tracks; Not quite there with the road-map. We want to trial these ideas to see what works; Funding, resourcing operations – it must be there – and it must have a gender lense; What does co-creation look like? What does agenda-setting look like; Read the Young Feminist Manifesto which informs our ideas;
 - EU Rep. Response: we feel the energy – your energy! Civil society has been pushed aside; we’re all supportive of this approach: we trying to mainstream this stuff ourselves; but H Rts are not an EU topic – it is a universal topic; H Rts is one of the pillars of the UN – but always the 3rd pillar, never the 1st Pillar. It is a ‘cross-cutting theme’ – but if it is everywhere – it is nowhere. It needs to be more specific.
 - Training – and money – hugely important; we know what needs to be done; but we need the political will; We should be encouraged by the progress we’ve made on children and youth – and it’s an example we can all use;
 - Example also of CSW – that civil society input still works;
 - Craig Mokhiber – UN ASG - H Rts Commission Response:– esp. the resource point is well-received. One Third of the UN Charter gets 4% of the budget – a scandal. It is wrong to think that member states should govern the H Rts civil society groups. And note: some UN Institutions do NOT recognise H Rts. That’s a scandal!
4. **Environmental Governance**: John - UN is not working
- MEGA Project – mobilise quick wins; and deploy the Emergency Platform;
 - Lauren: Transformative Education – to create a world population that is accepting and hungry for such education
 - Accountability, transparency and deliberation: People’s Pact must continue – as the reality –
 - Arubnar Ghosh: transformative education is the key; but what is the democratic demand. We need two more Es. Empathy and Empowerment. We need to walk in the shoes of the vulnerable. Problem is that they are too top-down – rather than bottom-up; a few other thoughts: on the de-carbonisation agenda and the GEA – As with going to the doctor because you fear that you won’t have the resources to deal with the diagnosis he gives me. Equally – think about how to mobilise the resources needed to de-carbonise and to hold countries accountable; transfer of knowledge from one generation to the next;
5. **Digital Compact Track**:
- To build on existing UN initiatives – we have a lot; support the work of the UN Tech Envoy; Advance the S-G’s roadmap for Digital Cooperation; Explore IGF+ bottom up initiative
 - Treat the Internet as a global public good; and empower people to own the Internet;
 - Protect human rights in the digital space; through a gender and age lense
 - Close the digital divide within and between countries; prevent internet prohibition and shut-downs;
 - Lopa: Yes – and... the CSW outcome: gender digital divide is the biggest divide – and it needs to be bridged;
 - Also – look at the framing of the ethics of AI – we need to go beyond: only 22% of workers in AI worldwide are women; and much of AI has both gender and racial bias; the internet is democratic but is it working in support of equality. Democratisation alone will not address the need of gender responsiveness
 - Deb in Australia: online safety expert – groups with limited digital literacy are the most exposed to abuse esp. women, youth and racially marginalised groups;
6. **Peace and Security**:
- Vanda: 6 x Proposals: all on www.unfoldzero.org website. All Positive Peace Proposals

- i. Preventing war & peace building; ICJ compulsory Jurisdiction; UNGA should be empowered to prevent war and over-rule Security Council Decisions;
 - ii. Implementing Article 26 – progressive and systematic reduction of military budgets
 - iii. UNEPS – emergency peace service; 13,000 professional soldiers
 - iv. Include Nuclear abolition by 2045
 - v. Advancing human right to peace, climate –
 - vi. Eliminate SC Veto – and create 3 x new UN Security Councils
- Swiss Guy: huge decline in wars; strengthening the role of the GA and ICJ; but prevention has to happen at the National Level; the SDGs and the link with development – is missing. Article 26 – is a bit idealistic. Taxing the arms trade – go after the big arms manufacturer; a party to a conflict needs to refrain from voting in the Security Council. (article 27)
 - New Security Councils – good proposal. H Rts proposals need to be targeted.
 - Adam Day – positive peace is a great place to start: HLAB has to be “Effective” – 109 will be in the HLAB report; proposals around global equity – that’s a big idea going around at the moment; legitimacy and independence of countries
 - New Agenda for Peace – leading to shifts in funding;
 - Less institutionalised approaches to global risks – keep them in civil society space;
 - 2 x Blind Spots: 1) huge danger in cyber attacks; 2) over-riding focus on nuclear threat; a people-centred approach is a better approach – we need input from global majorities – not just global minorities;

7. Global Economic & Financial Architecture:

- Reform SDRs of IMF and introduce global taxes on airline tickets for example
- Use the G20 Summit on Green developments; make it annual;
- Nigerian minister – speaks about anti-corruption – a lot of money has been recovered back to the country; and it is now invested in many things to change the life of people. Eg. A programme that goes to the local villages; so it is popular in Nigeria; (This is NOT global financial architecture!) It is difficult for us to get money – the election prohibited money. Electoral commission stood very strongly on this.
- **Chantal:** Illicit financial flows – not just stopping the illegal; stop the legal. Chantal is going to Geneva to work on Trade and Sustainability; we need a wholesale reform of the trading system
- SMEs need to be at the table – they are 50% of the company and more than 50% of the jobs; especially the women;
- Tobin tax? – how do you ensure the money gets to where it needs to go?
- 70 heavily indebted countries – not just SDRs – it’s not enough;
- Use Dormant Accounts; Purple economy – yellow economy (digital economy)

Maher Nasser – a lot of participation! Very impressive – let me understand what is going on. DGC has direct engagement with Civil Society and

FOUR Summits – all designed to turbo-charge the SDGs, now off-course more because of Ukraine and Covid. OCA came out of UN75 – that’s why its OUR CA. Meaningful engagement does not start here in New York; engagement needs to happen in capitals – with private sector, youth, civil society etc.; change in regulation is important – but those regulations are opposed by companies. Deal with that!

Maria: THANK YOU – the human energy is so wonderful! This is real – the movement is real; this is co-creation of a better UN; constructively closing between the desirable and the possible; the time to do this is now. It’s NOW or NEVER; We are a movement to transform multi-lateralism. A lot of homework for us to do. The Coalition has a lot of homework to do. I am extremely happy. Let’s look after the future – and the future starts today.

Fergus: Peoples Pact is a dynamic document – and we shall be evolving that into something very special;

Dan: Idealism is the new Realism! The world as it is cannot remain that way. It is not possible. Tomorrow we are making a test run. We have a Mission Engagement day. We have to go the Heart – and then take back that energy and nutrition to the extremities (the Capitals)

People's Pact development – so we need to modify it – and then we will go to capitals; the C4UN door is always wide open to suggestions;

Becky Malay: from the Philippines – at 05.30 in the morning!

AFRICAN UNION BRIEFING

They are setting themselves up as gate-keepers for CSO involvement in ECOSOC – probably a good thing. They are asking for a place on the Security Council – and have synchronised their development plans to the SDGs as a proposal for the SDG Summit.

Key issue: GOOD FAITH – keep your promises. Don't just give us a bunch of words – it just makes our public hugely sceptical.

Another Suggestion: if there was to be a World Parliament, it should be located in Nairobi, Kenya – (Gigiri Campus) – and rotated between New York, Geneva, Nairobi and Bangkok.

Maria Rodriguez – Portugese: this sequence of Summits can be a success if a continent of the size and diversity of Africa can come together with a single voice. Governments will always be a cacophony of different voices – but within civil society, we should be able to find common ground. In these UN Meetings, if the European Union is there – African Union should be there too.

NEXT STEPS: we are in the hands of our partners. We have some institutional Partners – and we are in their hands; But we shall create an Agenda and a Schedule for work.

OUTREACH STRATEGY – WHAT NEXT?

Elements of Outreach and Advocacy

Presented by: Jeff Huffines & Mwendwa Kiogora from Kenya

Advocacy: Yes – do a missions engagement day; BUT – more important: engage with the people in the Capitals; Engage at the National Level; and get the Foreign Ministers and UN Ministers to tell their Missions in New York and Geneva what to do

ALSO – outreach to civil society: we need to bring in more NGOs. In theory, we have partners, members and supporters – but we need a membership development office; we have a mailing list of over 6,000 individuals and organisations – but we need to decouple that!

Mwendwa: Overloaded with information! Amazed at what has already been done! But – for me – we need to amplify the voices at the grassroots of civil society. So Civil Society groups don't just need to come to New York – more important, they need to go back to their grassroots, tell them our ideas and listen to the feedback from community leaders – individual stakeholders – and amplify their voices. Also get in touch with thought leaders and influencers - so that they put the messages out on social media.

We need to be able to measure our impact – likes on facebook, on twitter feeds etc.

IRISH MISSION NOTES

Meeting with Donal Keneally & John Gilroy

What would be a good result of the SDG Summit:

A bold, substantial Declaration(6-7 pages) coming out of the Summit with 3 x Firm Commitments –

1. Clear 100% recommitment to ALL SD Goals
2. Clear acknowledgement that we're off-track – badly! And that we're off track long before Ukraine and COVID. Why we're off-track – and how we get back on track;
3. Action Plan to get us back on track. And these include:
4. High Impact Initiatives
5. Citizen initiatives “we will do this!”
6. “We will find a process to address this...”
7. PGA – Beyond GDP
8. PGA – Better M & E – bench-marking and measurement for the SDGs;

SotF is about new things: Digital Compact, Outer Space, New Agenda for Peace; Declaration for Future Generations;

Francesca raises the Intl. Financial architecture; Corruption Court/SDRs for debt relief: 40% of foreign debt is held by China & China does NOT want to discuss it. SDRs are a DC issue so we leave it to them;

Financing the UN – core contributions are all Member States want to give at the moment: Voluntary contribs are down from 46 to 20.

They wanted it to be called: Summit of the People – not Summit of the Future

Climate

Climate is pigeon-holed in UNFCCC & IPCC – John Gilroy tried to make it a Security Council Issue but Russia vetoed it.

Everyone knows that they need to address climate in development: that it is at the heart of the matter – but no one wants to do it. And, as the parents of 5 x children between them, they are quite desperate:

- We're locked in to 35-40cm of sea-level rise; even at 1.5
- And even if countries kept to their INDCs, we'd be at 2.7
- And Biden has given away more oil prospecting licences than Trump – most recently in Alaska!
- All Global Sustainable Development reporting is depressing
- But we need Realism – NOT – Fatalism
- Most of all, we need HONESTY

So Ireland has –

- co-sponsored the Vanuatu Resolution to the ICJ;
- They have had several meetings with the Stop Ecocide campaign;
- They have been on a retreat to discuss the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Campaign
- We know what we have to do – but we don't do it: there is a big division at the UN between those who have had development and caused the problem – and those who have not – and haven't!

And then the Ukraine war has changed everything – sucked the oxygen out of all other concerns;

Their solution: show concrete evidence that there is money to be made in green technology and saving the world! And STOP FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES!

John argues that a Parliamentary Assembly at the UN would change everything.

Transformative Education:

They encourage us to look at Ireland's ESD policy released last year; Check out Patrick Paul Walsh's study on it from UCD;

They were impressed by the outcomes of the Transforming Education Summit (TES). UNESCO did a good job of gathering Education Ministers in Paris – and they see a clear path from OCA through TES to the SDG Summit with its updates on SDG 4.7 to the Declaration for Future Generations – which is now being led by the governments of the Netherlands and Jamaica;

Also – there will be an AS-G for Youth when the Youth Office is set up – all under 35.

Nudhara note: Sofia, Eliana and Karimou were on the UNESCO TES Panel;

Columbia & Austria MISSION NOTES

Anna Madrick Reports

Key Learnings

Austria is very focussed on TPNW – and Columbia suggests with have a collective consultation with several missions side-by-side

Australia MISSION NOTES

Ted Daley Reports on Meeting with Lena Wong & David Hamer

Key Learnings

They hadn't even really heard about the Summit of the Future. We're looking for a critical mass of medium powers – not the big powers. This is an area where they

Andreas Triple We the Peoples Citizen's Initiative – which has been well-received: Peoples' Assembly; Civil Society Envoy.

I closed by mentioning our grandest vision: Article 109 – and they hadn't really heard about: and Ted argued that the Charter was not designed for the world we have today; it wasn't even designed for the world of 1945 – it was designed to prevent another Hitler as in the 1930s.

OMAN MISSION NOTES

Richard Ponzio & Dan Perell lead with Lune Wong + DW

Key Learnings

Richard focuses on the Addis process to deliver the finance; G-20 moving closer to addressing the debt crisis

Luna address AI – and the Digital Compact; Chat GPT – narrow AI; concentrate on emerging technologies – not just existing technologies; by the time it's here – it will be too late! So UN needs to get on it.

Dan Perell: this is an Article 109 moment – a course correction but hopefully more than that: a chance to create a new form of governance; but we need a longer runway to it – to get a truly transformative conference. And the H-LAB will have a 109 reference; the charter is out of date now – we need the Island State voices, the Arab voices, the Indian and African voices;

Richard: Repurposed Trusteeship Chamber – joint hybrid peace-keeping forces; so an Article 109 event might be a natural outcome of the SotF;

Ambassador: every time we talk about the future – we're doomed to fail as we do not know the future!

On Modalities negotiation, we fell apart at the word "Future." It's hopeless

We need another tragedy – that's what it takes to make a great change.

What impresses me is the word YOUTH – a better word than FUTURE; Limiting the veto power of Security Council – that will never happen.

He is totally against Regionalisation – he is against clusteralisation. Globalisation – Digitalisation – new words – YOUTH WORDS. Citizens of the future MUST avoid groupings; avoid divisions;

Heavy shocks create resilience – but nobody knows how this will end up; it was always unexpected;

Look at the issue of Race in the USA – and the reactionaries coming back;

The best example of people coming together was South Africa's truth and reconciliation Commission; so results come from everywhere;

On the SotF – we need more human face – human rights. You have to have food on the table to negotiate. We need to bridge the divide between the north and south – between OECD and G-77 & China; because here at the UN, the shareholders are the nation state governments. We don't live in a democratic world.

My advice – your concerns have to be balanced. North and South. Think out of the box – that's what saves the UN

Be intelligent: Israelis want 1.7% of so much land – and the Palestinians were talking about opening up every Arab market to them. Why would they be so stupid?

Is the UN the best system? – No

Does it cater to Civil Society and the We the People? - No

Will it change? – No

My advice: detach yourself from your present function – be Super Human;

Don't use the Word: "Leave no one behind..." We left EVERYONE behind – Palestinians; Ukrainians etc.

Everything has "...& development" "Peace & development"; "Human Rights & Development" – and that's why some OECD countries want to bypass the

Austria Mission

Very into advancing the nuclear disarmament / TPNW – that is their major focus

UK Mission: Conversation with Philip Reed –

Casey & Grace: in charge of the SDG Summit; Contact when we've got a People's Pack

UK Mission really champions the Civil Society input – we always put participation of civil society at the top of our priority list

BUT - Philip Reed is in charge of the Summit of the Future;

Global Governance Innovation Proposals to be elaborated upon in the interim People's Pact for the Future

To create the “Future We Want and United Nations We Need” in the lead-up to the September 2024 Summit of the Future, diverse peoples and perspectives from across civil society—at all levels and in every corner of the globe—must be encouraged to make their mark. Convened from 20-21 March 2023 in a hybrid format in New York (home to the United Nations), the inaugural **Global Futures Forum** aspires to pave the way for a 2023 Sustainable

Development Goals Summit and a 2024 Summit of the Future where the voices of civil society worldwide are heard, broadly discussed, and incorporated. With more than 2000 registered participants, the Global Futures Forum has sought: (1) to finalize and widely socialize an interim “People's Pact for the Future” (following a seven-part e-consultation series, virtual town halls, policy reports and briefs, regional futures forums, a youth research series, and several global policy dialogues), as a vehicle for feeding diverse civil society ideas and insights into official discussions on the Pact for the Future; (2) to channel timely, intergenerational perspectives into wider (multi-track) Summit of the Future intergovernmental negotiations; and (3) to encourage civil society- led coalitions and networks to mobilize around select, high impact proposals for making multilateralism more inclusive and capable of addressing 21st century challenges and opportunities. The **People’s Pact for the Future** will be elaborated upon in the coming weeks in an interim format, finalized in early 2024, and will be found the [Coalition for the UN We Need website](#). At present, it is organized around *seven core themes*:

Human Rights & Participation

1. Double the Resources of the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights (OHCHR) to improve the effectiveness of the Treaty Body System, and support closer cooperation between the OHCHR and other UN bodies through the Pact for the Future.
2. The Procedures of UN Human Rights Mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review and Treaty Bodies, need to adopt an Intergenerational Strategy that brings more Children’s and Youth Voices to the work of the Human rights Council.
3. Increase the number of UN Staff with Human Rights Knowledge, Education, and Experience.
4. Develop Guidelines for the Regular Inputs of deliberative Global Citizens' Assemblies to the UN agenda.
5. Redefine how Civil Society relates to ECOSOC, the General Assembly, the Security Council, and other UN bodies.

Development

1. Update the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Clarify SDGs Implementation Responsibilities.
3. Establish a Global Resilience Council.
4. Define Alternatives to GDP.

Environmental Governance

1. Add to the ICC Rome Statute the Crime of Ecocide.
2. Set-up an Earth Governance Regulatory Body.
3. Pursue a multi-faceted Decarbonization Agenda.
4. Mobilize Financing for Environmental Action from Alternative Sources that Engage Citizens worldwide.

Global Economic & Financial Architecture

1. Establish an International Anti-Corruption Court to tackle corruption and illicit financial flows.
2. Increase Transparency in World Trade Organization Decision-Making and include New Stakeholders in National

Committees on Trade Facilitation.

3. Tax Currency Transfers, Airline Ticket Purchases, and other Transnational Services, and adopt a UN Tax Convention, to Fairly Mobilize Public Finance and Leverage Private Finance for Critical Public Goods.
4. Convene a Biennial Summit for the World Economy to achieve more Equitable Socio-Economic Recovery.
5. Expand the IMF’s Special Drawing Rights as a Means for Debt Relief and Financing Critical Global Public Goods.

UN and Global Governance Innovation

1. Increase the Secretary-General’s Independence, Qualifications.
2. Create a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly.

3. Facilitate the instrument of a UN World Citizens' Initiative.
4. Create a high-level UN Civil Society Envoy.
5. Initiate an Article 109 UN Charter Review Conference.

Global Digital Compact

1. Establish a UN Department of Digital Governance.
2. Empower Individuals by Democratizing the Internet.
3. Protect Human Rights & Privacy Online w/Universal Stand.
4. Close the Digital Divide Within and Between Countries.
5. Develop an Online Moral Code of Ethics.

Peace & Security

- Prevent war by strengthening international mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of conflicts.
- Implement UN Charter Article 26 through plans and action for disarmament that convert military resources into economic and social development resources.
- Stand-up a United Nations Emergency Peace Service.
- Include nuclear weapons abolition in the post-2030 SDGs, with the goal of achieving their complete elimination by 2045.
- Advance the human rights to peace, nuclear abolition, and climate protection in the World Court and Human Rights Council.

On the way forward, among the multiple channels to facilitate robust, constructive, and diverse civil society engagement worldwide in the Summit of the Future's preparations are: *first*, welcome the knowledgeable participation of **at least one civil society and one youth representative on national delegations** from the start of summit preparations; and *second*, allow **one civil society representative and one youth representative** to contribute their ideas, immediately following government interventions, at all Pact for the Future and individual track intergovernmental negotiations feeding into the Summit of the Future.

Adapting our essential United Nations organization to current and emerging crises will require institutional, legal, and operational (including financial) reforms, for which the interim **People's Pact for the Future** will offer several concrete ideas, building, in some cases, on the most novel proposals seeded by Secretary-General António Guterres in his *Our Common Agenda* report. Taken together, these kinds of innovations can ensure—with the support of a high ambition coalition of diverse states and civil society organizations with shared policy goals—that the Summit of the Future seizes the opportunity to renew global governance and face the collective moral and practical imperatives of our time. In myriad ways, these proposals are complementary to, and will better prepare the UN system to help deliver on, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Agreement.

To review the full-length interim People's Pact for the Future, visit the [C4UN website here](#) in mid-April 2023.

C4UN Delegation Members:

1. David Woollcombe, Founder and Chair of Trustees, Peace Child
2. John Vlasto, EC Chair of the World Federalist Movement
3. Lauren Banham, Youth Advisory Board, Peace Child International; Co-Producer, PCI UN Day State of the Planet Programme initiative;
4. Francesca Reynolds, Founder and CEO, IMPART; Coach of the UK International Debating team and educational outreach volunteer for C4UN
5. Sandrine Dixson-Declève, Club of Rome

Time: 12:30 PM

Address: 1 Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, 885 Second Ave, 21st Floor

Person to visit: Donal Kenneally | Deputy Permanent Representative, <Donal.Kenneally@dfa.ie>, (M) 917 207 6347