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21 February 2012

No. 9

INFORMATION NOTE

Meeting of the informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO

On behalf of the Co-Chairs H.E. Ms. Dengo Benavides (Costa Rica) and Mr. Alberto Groff (Switzerland), I am pleased to invite Permanent Missions to the third meeting of the informal working group in 2012 on:

Thursday, 1 March 2012, at 10:00 a.m., in M-2 (M-building).

Kindly note that the forthcoming meeting will begin with an overview of the wider development system and global processes, in particular the implications for the UN development system of the fourth OECD-DAC High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Busan, Republic of Korea). Representatives from UN-DESA will then provide information on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR).

In order to enable an informed debate among Member States, participants are kindly invited to prepare for the session. An attached introductory note may provide some useful information for this purpose. This should facilitate the exchange of observations, comments and concerns of UNIDO Member States to be taken into account for the drafting of the strategic document of the informal working group as well as for the negotiations of the QCPR.

Contact points in the Secretariat for queries related to the working group are Mr. S. Hobohm, Director, Organizational Strategy and Coordination Group, telephone: (01) 26026 3675 or e-mail: s.hobohm@unido.org, or myself, telephone: (01) 26026 3708 or e-mail: f.haidara@unido.org.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fatou Haidara", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Fatou Haidara
Director
Policymaking Organs Secretariat

Distribution:

Permanent Missions to UNIDO

**Introductory note on the
Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development
(QCPR) of the UN system**

**Informal Working Group, on the Future, including Programmes and Resources, of UNIDO
1 March 2012**

What is the QCPR?

The QCPR is the mechanism through which the General Assembly will assess the effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact of UN operational activities for development and, through a resolution, will establish system-wide policy orientations and country-level modalities in response to the evolving international development cooperation environment. It replaces the current triennial framework (TCPR), launched in 2007 and extended to 2012 pending the outcome of the Delivering as One process. UN agencies will be expected to align their own strategic frameworks with the QCPR resolution and to follow its recommendations.

What is the process, and when will it take place?

The General Assembly will formally discuss the QCPR in October 2012 and, following negotiations between Member States, is likely to finalize a resolution by November/December 2012. The new QCPR will be operational from 2013 - 2016.

Initial preparations for the QCPR are already underway. The UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) is tasked with carrying out a range of consultations and surveys that will feed into reports of the Secretary-General on implementation of the current TCPR, and on a blueprint for the QCPR, respectively. In July 2012, ECOSOC will consider the first available reports and will likely provide the groundwork for the eventual General Assembly resolution.

How does this relate to Delivering as One?

In giving guidance for the future, the QCPR will build on lessons learned to date. The independent evaluation of the Delivering as One pilot exercise, to be released in the second quarter of 2012, will inform the discussion at the ECOSOC deliberations in July. As the Secretary-General has prioritized support for a “second generation of Delivering as One” in his five year Action Agenda – with a focus on managing and monitoring for results, and increased accountability – the expectation is that the QCPR will fill this role. The next intergovernmental conference on Delivering as One, to be held in Tirana following the completion of the independent evaluation, will make concrete recommendations on how the coherence agenda can be driven forward through the QCPR.

How is the QCPR linked to the OECD-DAC High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan?

While the Busan Conference of November/December 2011 was not a UN meeting, nonetheless the breadth of participation and subsequent endorsement of the outcome document by a wide range of partners makes it of relevance to the UN development system. The plan for a “Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation” signals the determination of development actors from across governments, multilateral and bilateral development partners, civil society, NGOs, and the private sector to reach sustained development results. It also paves the way for new development partnerships.

As the QCPR will provide a framework for how the UN system can better work together to adapt its activities to the shifting development cooperation landscape, while improving the effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of its work, the Busan outcome document and its follow-up will most likely form the basis of negotiation for many Member States.

Is there a connection with Rio+20 and preparations for the post-2015 development agenda?

The QCPR discussions at ECOSOC in July 2012 will be the first opportunity to discuss making the Rio+20 outcome operational through the UN system at the country level. As Rio+20 is expected to play a major role in signposting the future orientation of the development agenda beyond the expiration of the MDGs in 2015, it is likely that the QCPR resolution will build further on this.

What is the relevance for the work of the Informal Working Group?

In GC.14/Dec.18 of 2 December 2011, the General Conference requested that, from 2013 onwards, the UNIDO Medium-term Programme Framework should take into account the recommendations of the latest comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development. Moreover, as the QCPR comes to take the place of the former Delivering as One process and becomes an increasingly important channel for driving the efficiency, effectiveness and relevance agendas, agencies such as UNIDO will increasingly be held to account for adherence to the framework.

This has clear implications for the eventual outcome of the Group’s deliberations, which is to produce a guiding policy document to inform the future programmes and strategies of UNIDO. Such a document should complement the QCPR resolution.

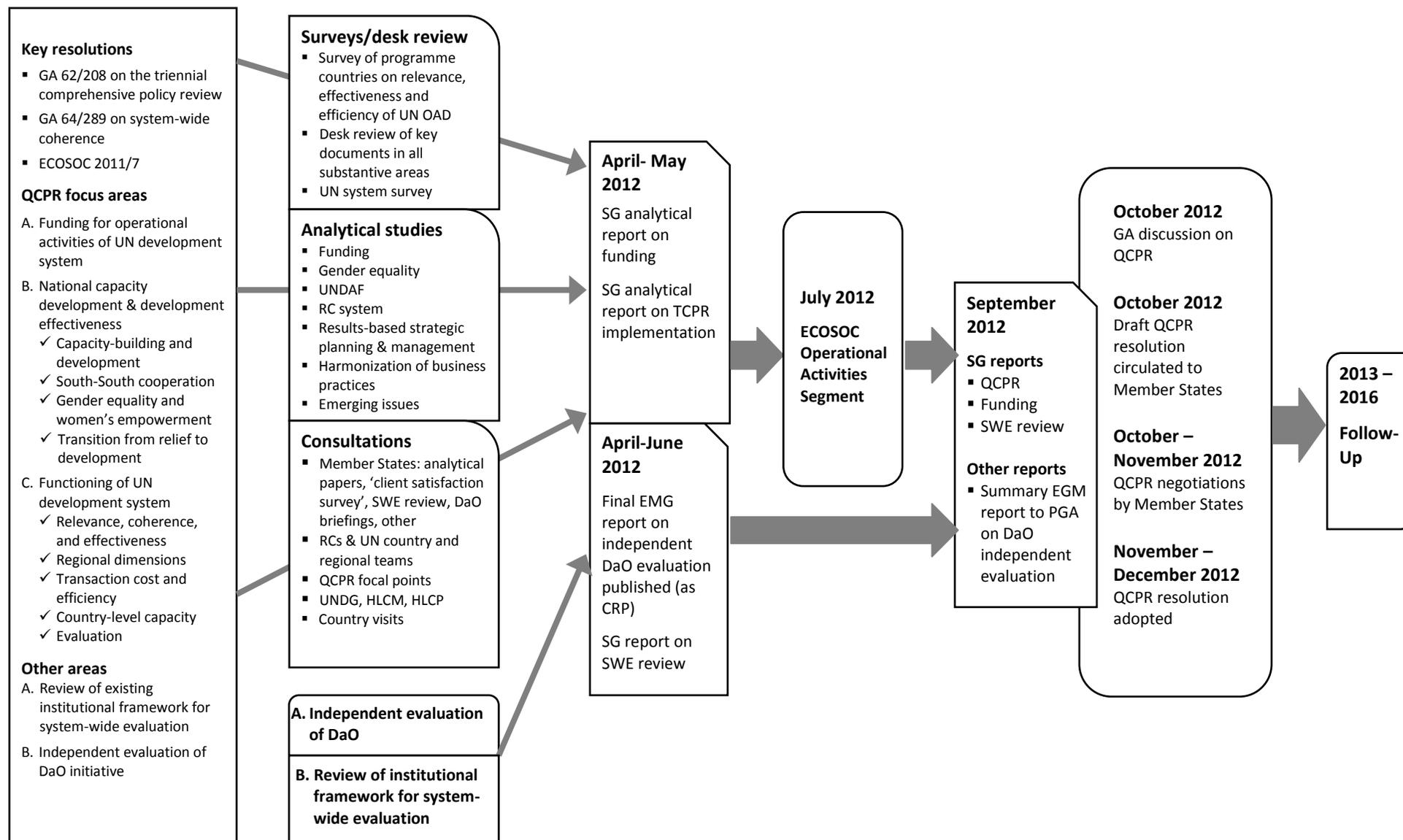
In addition, dialogue with UN-DESA on the QCPR process at this stage will allow for observations, comments and concerns of UNIDO Member States to be taken into account before the completion of the Secretary-General’s reports, and in advance of the formal discussion and finalization of the QCPR resolution at the close of 2012.

Where can I find further information?

UN-DESA maintains a website with further detail on QCPR preparations. It can be accessed at <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/2012qcpr.htm> . A diagram representing the QCPR preparation timetable is attached as an annex to this note.

Overview of preparations for 2012 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of the General Assembly

Assessing the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of UN operational activities for development



October 2011 - March 2012	April - June 2012	June - July 2012	September - December 2012	2013 - 2016
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Timeline →