

Implementation Frameworks for International Summits or Conferences

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Question

What frameworks for implementation or public accountability have been used by international summits or conferences?

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1. Summary

International summits and conferences bring together a variety of stakeholders including high-level government actors, to discuss and agree on resolutions to tackle global problems. However, the extent to which the resolutions are implemented varies. Likewise, the extent to which governments and other stakeholders can be held accountable for the commitments that they make at the conference or summit varies.

Implementation and enforcement of commitments may be improved by an effective framework for accountability that specifies clear targets for progress which can be monitored. The targets usually have to be set at a global, regional and country level. Governments and other stakeholders are more likely to implement resolutions if support is provided by the

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implementation partners. Such support includes funding, training, technical assistance or further high-level meetings.

This rapid literature review examined the accountability mechanisms used by seven global summits or conferences: the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development (2012), the World Health Organisation Ministerial Conference on Ending TB (2017), the Nuclear Security Summit (2016), World Conference on Indigenous People (2014), One Planet Summit (2017), the Montréal Protocol (1997), and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (2015). In addition, two other global agreements were reviewed: Sustainable Energy for All (2011) and the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework. There is no grey literature on this topic and the only articles in the academic, peer reviewed literature relate to examining the effectiveness of the Montréal Protocol. Therefore, the review relied on an assessment of the processes or frameworks for reporting and monitoring which are described in the conference or summit documents. Some of the documents were not up to date. Moreover, it was not clear whether the accountability framework was put in place at the start of the conference or summit or if it was adopted later.

The review of the accountability frameworks used in the aforementioned conferences, summits or global agreements ascertained the following findings:

- An organisational structure is necessary for implementing the resolutions or commitments. The organisational structure can be very complex and layered, such as the Ten Year Framework Programme which focuses on implementing the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (2012);
- Financial support may be necessary to incentivise implementation especially for developing countries. The Montréal Protocol provided funding for developing countries to eliminate the use of ozone-depleting substances. Similarly, the Nuclear Security Summit provides financial support, technical assistance or training to help countries to dispose of hazardous material;
- Measurable targets must be set at global, regional and country level;
- Targets and reporting can be disaggregated to reveal discrepancies according to age or sex. For example, such disaggregation is required for monitoring progress towards eliminating tuberculosis;
- Countries report their progress by providing a country report;
- Reporting progress and monitoring are best facilitated if there are other agreements, conventions or protocols that facilitate such reporting. For example, the WHO Conference on Ending TB utilises existing conventions that are already used for global reporting of tuberculosis infections or tuberculosis-related deaths;
- Monitoring and reporting tends to be more robust when there is a designated organisational body that manages the resolution. For example, the Secretariat for the Montréal Protocol, and
- The documentation relating to the Nuclear Security Summit and the One Planet Summit is not explicit with regard to which entity is responsible for monitoring implementation and progress.

2. Implementation following international summits/conferences

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio, 2012

After the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio, 2012 the heads of member states adopted a **10 Year Framework Programme (10YFP)** for implementing programmes on sustainable consumption (10YFP Secretariat, 2013). They also agreed to cooperate to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns across developed and developing countries. The 10YFP supports capacity building and facilitates access to technical and financial assistance from developed countries to developing countries. The 10YFP for sustainable consumption and production patterns is a concrete and operational outcome of the Rio conference.

The key milestones for the 2013 to 2014 were to speed up the consultation process and launch five initial components of the 10YFP. In addition, regional consultations and fundraising activities were undertaken to secure resources for the 10YFP Trust Fund (10YFP Secretariat, 2013).

The 10YFP organisational structure

The 10YFP Board

An organisational structure for the 10YFP was set up. Decision 67/203 of the United Nations General Assembly established a 10-member board consisting of two countries from each United Nations regional group. The initial term of the board was two years. The board was nominated and formally established in September 2013. Furthermore, members of the board have convened and participated in regional meetings in Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa (10YFP Secretariat, 2013).

The 10YFP Secretariat

The United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) serves as the Secretariat of the 10YFP. The Secretariat has established and mandated the governance structures for the 10YFP and has thus far organised seven regional meetings and two capacity-building workshops.

The 10YFP Inter-agency Coordination Group

The Group was established in May 2013 with the participation of 19 United Nations (UN) bodies and is chaired by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and co-chaired by the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). The Group provides inputs for the development of the 10YFP programme.

National Focal Points

All member states were invited to nominate **National Focal Points (NCPs)** for the 10YFP. So far over 110 countries have nominated their 10YFP NCPs and alternates. Representatives were chosen from Ministries of Environment, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Ministries of Trade and Industry, Ministries of Economic Development, Ministries of Planning, Ministries of Rural Development and Ministries of Agriculture. The 10YFP Secretariat has organised four webinars for the NCPs to increase their knowledge of the 10YFP. Regional meetings with the NCPs and

other stakeholders have been organised in the Arab region, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia Pacific and Africa. Capacity building workshops for the NFPs were set up in West Asia and Africa in December 2013 and May 2014, respectively. The NFPs take an active role in organising inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder roundtables to raise awareness of sustainable consumption and production (10YFP Secretariat, 2013).

Stakeholder focal points

Six out of the nine major UN groups have nominated global and regional focal points in response to an invitation sent by the 10YFP Secretariat. Regional and interregional dialogue has commenced. Two webinars were organised by the Secretariat to facilitate the nomination process for global and regional focal points.

The global Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Clearinghouse

In May 2013 the global SCP Clearinghouse was launched as the 10YFP one-stop information hub. The focus is on policymakers and the wider SCP community. This dynamic and interactive hub collects, disseminates and share its experiences, best practice and knowledge about sustainable consumption and production. In addition, it hosts an e-library, news and events, cooperation opportunities, newsletters, expert directory, working groups and discussion forums. The SCP Clearinghouse has over 1600 members, including experts from 500 organisations based in 186 countries (10YFP Secretariat, 2013).

The 10YFP Trust Fund

The Secretariat established the 10YFP Trust Fund aimed at providing financial support to the 10YFP as well as specific programmes and initiatives in developing countries. The first call for proposals was launched for activities relating to sustainable public procurement.

Regional roadmaps for the 10YFP implementation

Regional consultations and activities were used to identify priorities, needs and emerging issues as well as the best ways to address them through seven regional meetings and capacity building workshops. Seventy NFPs attended the regional meetings thus bringing together policymakers, experts, civil society organisations and the business sector. Regional roadmaps for the implementation of the 10YFP have been developed in the Arab region and Asia Pacific.

Progress at the national level

At the national level countries have developed or implemented national action plans following the adoption of the 10YFP. For example, Indonesia has launched its national 10YFP for SCP. Mexico has also developed a special programme on SCP, which is now part of the country's national development plan for 2012 – 2018. Implementation may be accelerated by attracting further funding and enhancing the participation of the private sector and financial institutions. In addition, SCP must be integrated in the decision-making processes of governments. The NCPs must be empowered by their governments to promote a shift towards sustainable consumption and production. This process may require enhanced inter-ministerial cooperation and coordination, as well as broad stakeholder inter-action at the national level (10YFP Secretariat, 2013).

World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Ministerial Conference on Ending TB, Moscow, 2017

Ministers of Health and other sectors met in Moscow with UN agencies, civil society, philanthropies, the private sector, academia and donors to discuss the response to tuberculosis (TB) and to accelerate efforts to set targets to end tuberculosis as part of the UN Sustainable Development Agenda and the WHO End TB Strategy. There were 1000 registered participants including ministers from 79 countries and representatives from 118 of the member states (WHO, 2018b).

At the end of the Conference, the **Moscow Declaration** was issued, whereby 118 national delegations committed to ending tuberculosis. A statement from the Canadian delegation mentioned that an accountability framework would be necessary to provide concrete and effective deliverables for the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting of political leaders. A proposal for a Multi-sectoral Accountability Framework was brought forward for consideration at the next UN High-Level Meeting (WHO, 2017).

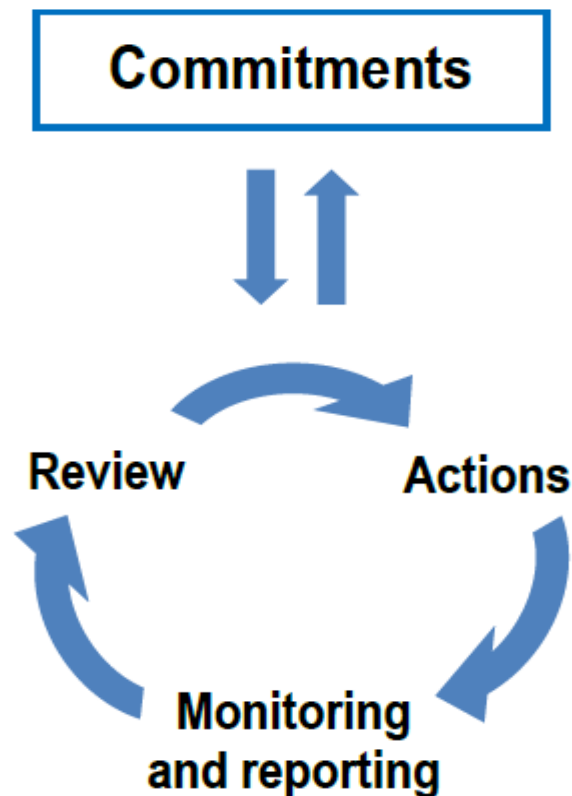
It was recommended that an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism that is convened by Ministers of Health, with the Head of State as patron, is needed to guide and monitor progress towards ending the tuberculosis epidemic, as well as minimise gaps in tuberculosis case notification by 2020. In addition, it was necessary to create an online global repository of innovative approaches to address case detection and treatment gaps (WHO, 2017).

Goals and deliverables

Action plans at national and global levels were used to develop a roadmap from 2017 to 2018 with deadlines provided. According to the WHO: “An accountability framework defines who is accountable (for example, an individual, organisation, national government, or global community), what commitments and actions they are accountable for, and how they will be held to account. Broadly, mechanisms for how specific entities are held to account fall into two major categories: (a) monitoring and reporting and (B) review” (WHO, 2018a:3). A **multi-sectoral accountability framework**, which includes indicators and recommended targets which enables the monitoring, reporting, review and recommendations to accelerate progress towards eradicating tuberculosis, was drafted and submitted for consideration at the World Health Assembly. The draft multi-sectoral framework was informed by discussions and proposals made during consultations with member states and partners. Furthermore, the Moscow Declaration calls for member states and global agencies as well as other partners to accelerate efforts towards achieving the sustainable development goal target for tuberculosis and those of the WHO End TB Strategy (WHO, 2018a).

Commitments should be followed by **actions** which are needed to achieve the commitment. Monitoring and reporting are then used to track progress related to the commitments and actions (Figure 1). Results will be assessed from the **monitoring** during periodic **reviews** which are documented in reports and other associated products which will be used to make recommendations for further action. The next cycle of actions will be driven by recommendations based on the reviews of the results. Therefore, commitments can be revised periodically. Accountability is strengthening by reinforcing one or more of the four components of the framework. For example, increasing the quality and coverage of the data and reports or improving the review process (WHO, 2018b).

Figure 1: Generic Accountability Framework

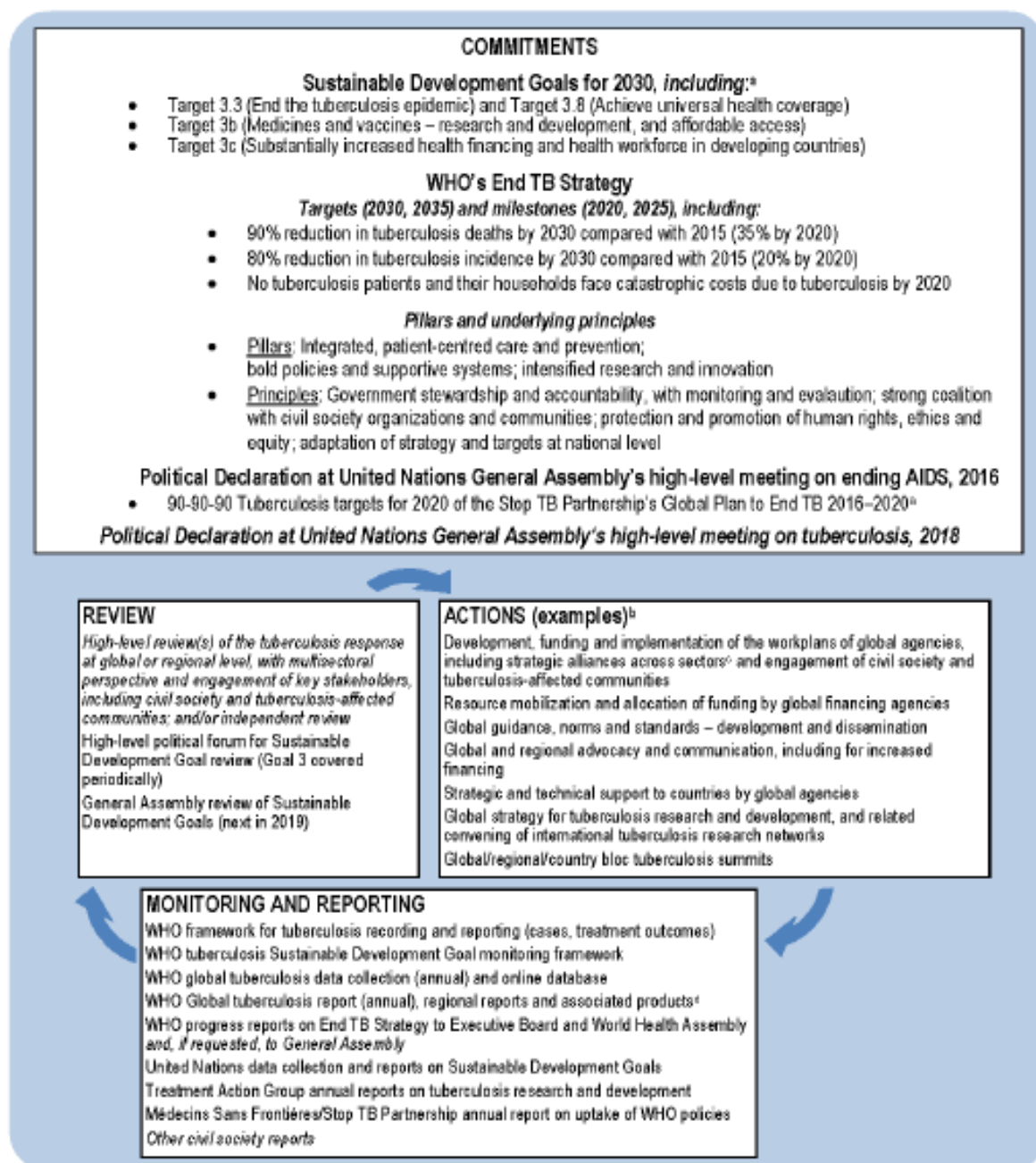


Source: WHO, 2018a:4

The **multi-sectoral accountability framework** for tuberculosis aims to provide accountability of all governments and stakeholders at global, regional and national levels in order to accelerate the process to end the tuberculosis epidemic (WHO, 2017). The framework has two major parts: (1) global and regional levels and (2) national level:

- (1) The global and regional part of the framework defines the commitments, actions and monitoring and reporting processes and review mechanisms related to all countries collectively or at a regional level (Figure 2).
- (2) The national framework looks very similar to the regional framework, but it will identify commitments, actions, monitoring and reporting processes and review mechanisms that apply to an individual country at national and local levels. The main commitments are the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and the WHO End TB Strategy. The principles and pillars of the WHO End TB Strategy are mentioned. The monitoring and reporting of tuberculosis is already undertaken at a global and regional level by the WHO. There are standardised case and treatment outcome definitions for tuberculosis and a standardised approach to routine recording and reporting of tuberculosis cases and treatment outcomes at national and subnational levels. The reporting is disaggregated by age and gender. The WHO specifies a list of ten priority indicators which are used for monitoring the national tuberculosis response. There are 14 indicators which are used to monitor tuberculosis at a global level (WHO, 2018b).

Figure 2: Multi-Sectoral Accountability Framework for Ending TB



Source: WHO, 2018a:6

Monitoring and review

Monitoring is comprised of two key elements: (1) Routine surveillance of tuberculosis cases through national health information systems, and (2) Routine monitoring of tuberculosis related deaths through a national registration system which utilises international standards to record the cause of death. The system is not always in place even in some countries with a high burden of tuberculosis. Finally, monitoring of other priority indicators relating to the national tuberculosis response is needed (WHO, 2017). The routine systems for monitoring can be complemented

with periodic studies. The main reporting element is a national report which includes key results at national and subnational levels from the routine monitoring exercises. The result should be disaggregated by age, sex, location and other relevant variables.

The review component includes a high-level review of the national tuberculosis response from a multi-sectoral perspective which includes engagement with key stakeholders including the private sector, civil society and communities which are exposed to tuberculosis. National and regional commitments can be adapted for the local level. The actions which are taken at global and regional levels by global agencies should support the actions which are required at country level to end the tuberculosis epidemic (WHO, 2018b). The process of adapting the framework for the national level should be inclusive of officials across government sectors, civil society and local communities as well as other stakeholders such as parliamentarians, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), professional associations and the private sector.

The WHO secretariat prepared a report on the WHO End TB Strategy in 2018 for the WHO executive board meeting. The report included country examples of accountability which are summarised briefly below (WHO, 2018b):

- National commitments for reducing tuberculosis were aligned with the strategic development goals in Nigeria, Belarus and South Africa.
- National plans for combating tuberculosis are found in South Africa, the Russian Federation, Pakistan, Nigeria, China and Belarus.
- A Global Fund country coordinating mechanism (CCM) is found in Belarus, Nigeria, Pakistan and South Africa. The CCM makes provision for actions, monitoring and review. This includes the recording and reporting of infections and deaths.
- China and the Russian Federation have their own systems for monitoring, registration, treatment and reporting deaths.

During the stakeholder engagement member countries reported that the weakest link in the accountability framework was the review component. They stressed that there was a need for a strong feedback loop between the review of progress and meaningful recommendations for further action. Moreover, legislation frameworks particularly with regard to engagement in the private sector might need to be strengthened. The role of the media and public health information systems should be enhanced. National systems for notification and vital registration should be made more robust.

The following key additions to the multi-sectoral accountability framework were suggested (WHO, 2018a):

- Update commitments based on further developments from the United Nations Higher Level Meetings on tuberculosis;
- Specify regional commitments;
- Establish new global or regional funding mechanisms which go beyond the Global Fund;
- Establish a global tuberculosis research network;
- Strategic partnerships with other sectors; and
- Specify actions at a regional or country group level.

Nuclear Security Summit, 2016

The first nuclear Security Summit (NSS) was held in Washington DC in 2010 and there were summits in 2012 and 2014.¹ The summits have led to improvements in the security of nuclear materials and stronger institutional support for nuclear security (NSS, 2016a). The NSS aims to draw attention to the threat of nuclear terrorism and is designed to enhance several existing multilateral and cooperative institutions and structures which are designed to secure nuclear materials and prevent the smuggling of such materials (NSS, 2016b). The 2010 summit resulted in a high-level commitment and concrete plans and actions to achieve the following nuclear security goals (NSS, 2016a):

- Minimise the use of enriched uranium;
- Improve security at nuclear facilities and enhance national regulations and implementation of best practices;
- Improved membership in international instruments and organisations, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency;
- Introduce measures to detect and prevent illegal smuggling of nuclear or radioactive materials, and
- Create centres of excellence and build capacity to enhance nuclear security.

The communiqué from the 2016 NSS further reaffirms the commitment to the shared goals of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy. The members pledge to prioritise nuclear security (NSS, 2016b).

Action plans are provided for **implementing partners** including the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency, Interpol, the Global Initiative to combat Nuclear Terrorism, and an action plan for the ongoing global partnership (NSS, 2016b).

The action plan for the United Nations specifies actions at a national implementation level. For example, it specifies that the implementation of the full **UN Security Council Resolution 1540** should be enhanced by 2021 (NSS, 2016a). The report also specifies that assistance should be provided to requesting states for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1540. This includes providing funding for programmes to secure or safely dispose of disused radioactive material, funding for training of national points of contact as well as regional and sub-regional coordinators for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1540, and providing assistance to improve physical protection of nuclear or radioactive material. The report also specifies actions for improving coordination and cooperation. For example, participation in the formal points of contact network on UN Security Council Resolution 1540. In addition, targeted outreach focusing on non-reporting states should be undertaken (NSS, 2016b).

The **action plan** for global partnerships covers the following areas (NSS, 2016):

- Enhancement of national nuclear security regimes. This is achieved mainly through the provision of assistance to help countries to improve the security of nuclear materials;

¹ The 2010 conference had a national working plan, which is no longer available on the NSS website.

- The provision of assistance to improve nuclear forensics;
- Providing assistance to help countries with the disposition and conversion of nuclear materials;
- Specifying particular areas which are at risk;
- Strengthening the global partnership through assistance matchmaking events;
- Strengthening cooperation with other international fora such as the International Atomic Energy Agency Association or Interpol;
- Expanding membership and developing a rapid funding response capability, and
- Enhancing accounting of assistance funding for nuclear security.

A primary monitoring mechanism is the provision of **country reports**. From these country reports an over-arching highlights report which summarises the findings from all the countries which submitted reports is compiled (NSS, 2016b).

One Planet Summit, New York, 2017

The One Planet Summit has a single aim: to speed up the global transition to a low carbon economy (One Planet Summit, 2017). The summit was conceived as a multi-stakeholder coalition which spans the public and private sphere and includes concerned citizens, high-level political leaders, business leaders, and civil society leaders. The World Bank and the United Nations were partners of the summit. There were 4,000 participants at the first One Planet Summit which was held in Paris in 2017. The summit resulted in **12 commitments** which were put forward as concrete initiatives to meet the objectives set by the Paris Agreement on the climate. The commitments are listed as follows (One Planet Summit, 2017):

- Responding to extreme events in island states;
- Protecting land and water against climate change;
- Mobilising researchers and young people to work on climate issues;
- Public procurement and access to green financing for local government;
- Zero emissions target;
- Sectoral shifts to decarbonise the economy;
- Zero pollution transport;
- Movement towards a carbon price which is compatible with the Paris Agreement;
- Actions of central banks and businesses;
- International mobilisation of development banks;
- Commitments by sovereign funds, and
- Mobilising institutional investors.

The 2018 report lists some of the accomplishments for each of the commitments as indicated below (One Planet Summit, 2017).

Table 1: Commitments and Accomplishments for One Planet Summit (2017)

Commitment	Accomplishments
Responding to extreme events in island states	An interim team and governance structure was set up for a new accelerator programme. US\$3.5 million was raised for the accelerators' operations. Announcement of major pilot projects including creating a climate smart city in Granada (US\$300 million) and ocean resiliency in Belize (US\$2 million).
Protecting land and water against climate change	Launch of the tropical landscape finance facility and a project to develop zero budget natural farming in India which is targeting 6 million farmers.
Mobilising researchers and young people to work for the climate	Develop a framework and programme indicators for the One Planet Fellowship programme funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the BNP Paribas Foundation.
Public procurement and access to green financing for local government	Set up a website for the One Planet Charter.
Zero emissions target	Commitment by signatories to develop long-term low emissions and climate resilient development strategies in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. 36 pledges to become emissions neutral by 2050.
Sectoral shifts to decarbonise the economy	Launch of the platform for coal in regions in transition. Created a partnership with Bloomberg News to help shift messaging and understanding of the coal phase-out initiative.
Zero pollution transport	Advocate for transport decarbonisation by sending an open letter to European Union institutions on transport decarbonisation. 15 additional signatories to the commitment.
Movement towards a carbon price which is compatible with the Paris agreement	Established working groups for collaboration and sharing of best practice and joint policy research. Hosted a high-level event in March 2018 with ministers or representatives from Finland, France, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Germany, the Netherlands and members of the European Parliament and the European Climate Foundation.
Actions of central banks and businesses	Conference on climate risk in Amsterdam. Produce the final report of the high-level expert group on sustainable finance.
International mobilisation of development banks	AMTB committed US\$9.2 billion for renewable energy in 2017. IDFC members dedicated 80% of the climate finance in 2017 to projects and programmes in developing or emergency countries.
Commitment by sovereign funds	The shared understanding of the key principles, methodologies and indicators which are relevant for climate change. Identify climate-related risks and opportunities in investments. In 2018 the One Planet Sovereign Wealth Funds Framework was published.
Mobilising institutional investors	Increase coalition membership. Completed studies on innovation hotspots and ecosystems. Publication of a series of clean energy technology roadmaps and public sector best practices.

Source: One Planet Summit, 2016

The Montréal Protocol, 1997

The Montréal Protocol was an international environmental agreement with universal ratification to protect the Earth's ozone layer through the elimination of ozone-depleting substances (Secretariat UNEPO, 2006). The Montreal Protocol was adopted in 1997 and it has successfully eliminated over 98% of controlled ozone-depleting substances and helped to reverse damage to the ozone layer. An important side benefit has been reduced CO₂ emissions between 1989 and 2013. The implementation agency for the Montréal Protocol is the **Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montréal Protocol (MLF)** (Secretariat UNEPO, 2006).

The MLF provides funds to help developing countries to meet their obligations under the Montréal Protocol by eliminating the use of ozone-depleting substances. Initially the fund was formed by an international treaty (Secretariat UNEPO, 2006). The fund is managed by an **executive committee** which consists of an equal number of industrialised and developing countries. Funding is obtained from grants or concessional loans from the four **implementing**

partners: United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the World Bank. The fund is replenished on a three-year basis by the donors. The fund **Secretariat** consists of the executive committee which manages a three-year budget, and monitors the expenditures and activities of the implementing agencies. The separation of the management of the MLF from its implementing activities has been effective in maintaining the credibility and independence of the Secretariat. In addition, it has supported the development of operational policies which are cost effective and this is important given that the fund relies primarily on grant-based funding. The fund Secretariat is able to rigorously evaluate the project through an open, transparent and dynamic policy development process. The receipt and disbursement of funds is managed by the fund treasurer (Secretariat UNEPO, 2006).

The implementation of the programme is carried out by the four implementing agencies. The World Bank is responsible for dispersing half of the total funding and focuses on large-scale investment projects at country level. The UNDP organises demonstration and investment projects, technical assistance and feasibility studies. UNEP assists with project infrastructure and institutional strengthening of programmes which includes training. UNIDO is responsible for preparing and evaluating investment project proposals and implements projects at plant level. A vast number of evaluation reports are available on the website of the MLF (Secretariat, 2006).

According to DeSombre (2000) the success of the Montréal Protocol can be attributed to the following factors:

- Alternatives to chlorofluorocarbon (CFCs) were cheaper to produce than anticipated;
- The taxation of CFCs in developed countries provided an incentive to limit their usage;
- The funding provided to developing countries through the MLF provided incentives to encourage them to abandon CFCs;
- The risk of black-market CFCs was lower than anticipated;
- Threats of trade sanctions were effective in encouraging developing countries (including China and India which together were projected to account for one third of the world's consumption of CFCs by 2008) to adopt the Montréal Protocol;
- The adjustment framework within the MLF empowers the commission to make rules which states were not allowed to opt out of. Since adjustments require the consent of two thirds of the members, a majority of developed and developing countries was needed to pass an amendment;
- The MLF was well designed and capable of mitigating north-south conflict, and
- The Secretariat is independent and is thus better able to monitor compliance.

World Conference on Indigenous People, 2014

Resolution 65/198 (21 December 2010) of the United Nations General Assembly led to a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, which was known as the World Conference on Indigenous People, to share perspectives and best practices on the realisation of the rights of indigenous people (United Nations, 2014a). The World Conference was composed of two plenary meetings, three interactive roundtable discussions, and one interactive panel discussion. The conference was preceded by an interactive hearing with representatives of indigenous peoples, academic institutions, national human rights institutions, parliamentarians, civil society

and NGOs, which was organised by the President of the General Assembly. The World Conference resulted in an action orientated outcome document which was prepared on the basis of inclusive and open informal consultations with member states and indigenous peoples (United Nations, 2014a).

The outcome document reaffirms support for the **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People** and the commitments of member states (United Nations, 2014b). The document references the achievements which have been made over the past two decades in terms of building an international framework for the advancement of the rights and aspirations of indigenous peoples. This includes the establishment of a **Permanent Forum** on indigenous issues, the creation of an **expert mechanism** on the right of indigenous peoples and the appointment of a **special rapporteur** on the rights of indigenous peoples. The member states committed to consider the recommendations and advice of these bodies (United Nations, 2014a). Member states committed to cooperate with indigenous people through their representative institutions, and to develop and implement national action plans, strategies or other measures to achieve the goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Member states also undertook to improve the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities.

The Secretary General was requested to report to the 71st session of the General Assembly (in 2016) on the implementation of the resolution as well as to make recommendations regarding the use, modification and improvement of existing United Nations mechanisms to achieve the goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (United Nations, 2014b).

The **Permanent Forum** on indigenous issues includes a follow-up on the outcome document, which calls for member states to implement national action plans, strategies and other measures. It further draws attention to improving participation of indigenous people in the representative bodies of the United Nations (United Nations, 2014b). The document links the rights of indigenous people to other United Nations initiatives, such as the Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations framework on climate change and the Paris Agreement (United Nations, 2014b). However, the document does not specify targets or goals which can be used to assess the progress of implementing the outcomes of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 2015

Resolution 57/270 B of the United Nations General Assembly highlighted the importance of using existing United Nations mechanisms for reviewing the implementation of commitments made within the United Nations systems with respect to key areas of development (UNCTAD secretariat, 2015). The Trade and Development Board was invited to contribute to the implementation and review of progress made with regard to implementing the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits. According to the Accra Accord, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) should contribute towards the implementation and follow-up of the outcomes of relevant global conferences and should continue to contribute to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals. Further support for UNCTAD's role in supporting the implementation of global conferences is found in the Doha Mandate and the Nairobi Maafikiano (UNCTAD secretariat, 2015).

A progress report on the implementation of the outcomes of major UN conferences and summits gives a description of the progress made by the UNCTAD Secretariat in terms of facilitating implementation. Some examples include the following (UNCTAD secretariat, 2015):

- UNCTAD attended and contributed to the deliberations of the third International conference on small island developing states in 2014. UNCTAD organised a high-level side event on the potential of oceanic wealth in small island developing states. The event highlighted the importance of moving towards sustainable ocean-based sectors especially fisheries, tourism and renewable energy;
- UNCTAD has assisted developing countries such as Cape Verde, Gambia, Lesotho, Angola and Rwanda and economies in transition to establish institutions which regulate competition and competition policy;
- UNCTAD provides assistance to member-states during discussions of the 69th session of the General Assembly on international trade and development issues;
- UNCTAD provides technical input on the role of trade as a tool for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals;
- UNCTAD supported African countries with implementing the developmental objectives which related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD);
- UNCTAD helps African countries to create a favourable environment which enables them to benefit from opportunities in the information and communication technology sector;
- UNCTAD is conducting research on the gender effects of macroeconomic policies and specifically trade policies in Cape Verde, Angola, the Gambia, and Rwanda;
- UNCTAD collaborates with other UN agencies, donors, member governments and other international institutions to support the implementation of NEPAD;
- UNCTAD contributes to raising awareness and advocating for a range of development interests in African countries; and
- At the UNCTAD World Investment Forum ministers and experts from African countries participated in several high-level events. The Ministerial Roundtable on investing in the Strategic Development Goals attracted ministers from 29 countries and two heads of international organisations. The outcomes of this meeting were presented at the United Nations General Assembly.

The report provides some examples of the impact of UNCTAD's activities particularly in Africa. This conference does not appear to be supported by an accountability framework which specifies milestones or targets which can guide the progress for member states (UNCTAD secretariat, 2015).

3. Other international agreements

Sustainable Energy for All (SE4A), 2011

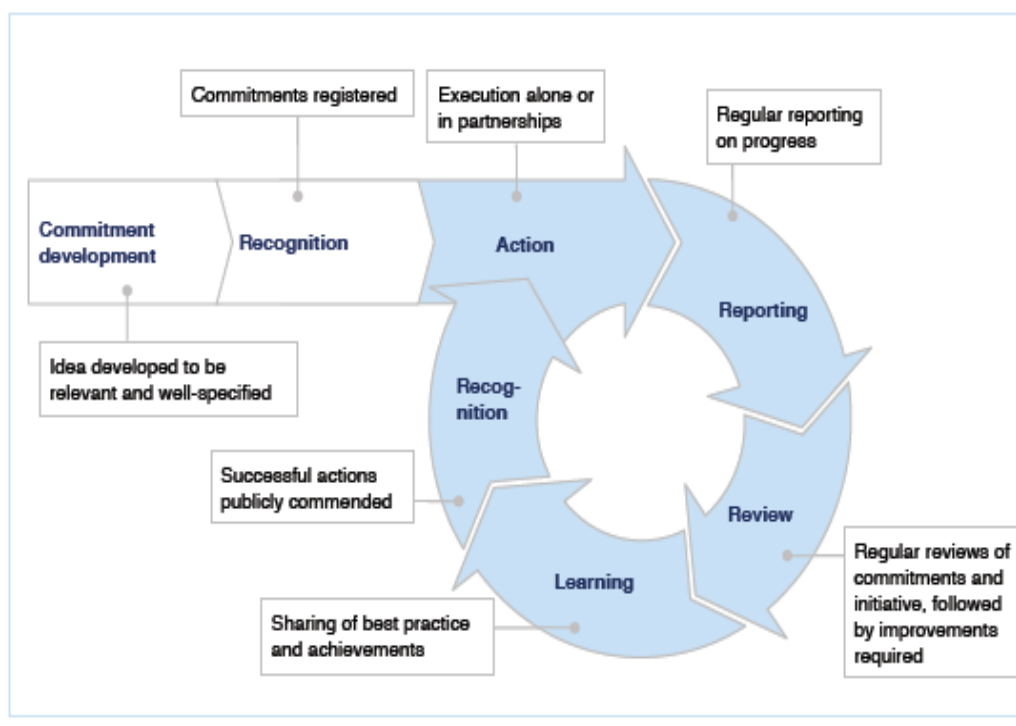
Sustainable Energy for All is an initiative from the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki moon, which was launched after a High-Level Group Meeting on sustainable energy. The initiative has three **objectives**:

- Ensuring universal access for modern energy services;
- Doubling the global rate of improvement with regard to efficient energy, and
- Doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.

The High Level Group on Sustainable Energy believes that these objectives are achievable by 2030. The High Level Group has developed a roadmap for each objective which includes appropriate milestones up to 2030. The initiative is envisioned as a collaboration between the public sector, the private sector and civil society.

The **accountability framework** for SE4A measures the progress on voluntary public-private commitments, and is depicted in Figure 3:

Figure 3: Accountability Framework for SE4A



Source: United Nations, 2012: 3

The SE4A Global Facilitation Team helps stakeholders to develop **commitments** that are then **registered** and published on the website (United Nations, 2012). Some commitments leads to concrete outcomes that have a direct impact in the defined period. Stakeholders are required to provide **annual updates** on progress made towards achieving the commitments. Progress should be **reported** against targets. The SE4A team reviews all reports to ensure that commitments are being acted upon. Achievements and best practices are shared on the website. Successful action is publically commended (United Nations, 2012).

Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF), 2012

TMAF was a development agreement between the donors and the government of Afghanistan that provides guidelines for continued reform and donor support (Ministry of Finance, 2013). The TMAF was useful as a coordinating mechanism between the government of Afghanistan and donors. However, its effectiveness was compromised by a range of social, political, financial and

bureaucratic problems. The TMAF specified a number of goals and developed **indicators** for each goal. Some examples of the goals and indicators are listed below in Table 2:

Table 2: Selected Goals and Indicators from TMAF

Goal	Indicators
Conduct credible, inclusive parliamentary and presidential elections in 2014 and 2015	By early 2013, develop a comprehensive timeline with election dates through to 2015. Ensure that a robust electoral architecture is developed.
Improve access to justice for all especially for women by ensuring that the constitution and other laws are enforced expeditiously	Ensure respect for human rights for all especially for women and children. Demonstrate implementation in partnership with civil society of the Elimination of Violence Against Women law. Implementation of the National Action Plan for woman. Enact and enforce a legal framework for fighting corruption.
Improve the integrity of public financial management and commercial banking	Implement the government support programme funded by the IMF on schedule. Continue to enforce accountability and asset recovery with respect to those involved in the Kabul banking crisis. Strengthen banking supervision and reforms through DA Afghanistan Bank. Implement the public financial management action plan to improve the management of public finances as measured by the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability assessment by 20%. Raise the transparency of public funds as measured by the Open Budget Initiative by over 40%. Implement the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force Asia-Pacific group.

Source: Ministry of Finance (2013)

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About this report

This report is based on five days of desk-based research. The K4D research helpdesk provides rapid syntheses of a selection of recent relevant literature and international expert thinking in response to specific questions relating to international development. For any enquiries, contact helpdesk@k4d.info.

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