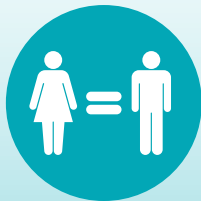


Post-2015 made simple



Shaping the future of
sexual and reproductive
health and rights

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Post-2015 made simple: introduction to this briefing pack

Are you confused about the post-2015 development framework? Are you aware that this is a really important issue and that it could have a lasting impact on your community in the years to come? Are you unclear about who is making the decisions, when they are being made and how you can get your voice heard? Are you working to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights? Then this briefing pack is for you.

This briefing pack looks at the post-2015 process so far, and aims to predict what to expect between now and September 2015. This document does not aim to cover all the issues in detail, but describes the main processes involved, and how advocates can participate at national, regional and global levels.

Where available, [web links](#) are provided for further reading and additional information, and we include a glossary of terminology at the back.

We explore the following questions:

- What is the post-2015 development framework, and why is it relevant to us?
- What is coming next, and how can we engage with the process?
- What have we 'won', and what do we still need to advocate on?
- What has taken place so far in the process, and how did we get here?



What is the post-2015 development framework, and why is it relevant to us?

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will end in 2015. In September 2015, the United Nations will agree on and adopt the framework that will replace the Goals: these are known as the Sustainable Development Goals. The international community and stakeholders – such as country governments (known as ‘UN Member States’), UN agencies and civil society organizations – are currently working to influence what issues will be prioritized in the next framework.

It is expected that this global framework will replace the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and will reflect the three pillars of sustainable development: economic, environmental and social development; and possibly a new fourth pillar, peace and security.

There have been many parallel processes that have been labelled collectively as the ‘post-2015 process’. While these processes are different from one other, they will all (some more than others) influence the post-2015 development agenda. We will explore these different processes later in the briefing.

Why is the post-2015 development framework important to you?

The Millennium Development Goals spelled out to the global community clear and articulate priorities to act on to significantly reduce poverty, and both developed and developing countries used this tool to establish their national priorities. The developed countries adapted their overseas development assistance and the developing countries adapted their national development plans. In both cases, the Millennium Development Goals shaped or influenced the political priorities of most governments worldwide. For example, global funding was channelled to those areas that were reflected in the MDG framework. This meant, in the case of MDG6 (HIV/AIDS), for instance, that the major portion of increased aid and funding going to population policies and programmes, and reproductive health care was earmarked and targeted to combat HIV/AIDS.¹

Post-2015 will have the same impact, affecting the policy, programming and funding priorities of implementing governments and donors. It is vital that sexual and reproductive health and rights is reflected in the framework from the beginning to ensure that it gets the priority it deserves. For service providers this offers opportunities for funding. If an issue is not included in the post-2015 framework it may not get funded. One example is MDG5b – universal access to reproductive health – which is the most off-track Millennium Development Goal, arguably because it was only introduced as a Goal in 2007, seven years late. If sexual and reproductive health and rights is not included in the post-2015 framework, it won’t get the attention it needs. If it is included, it will also make your advocacy on these issues easier.

¹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2014) *Financing the Unfinished Business of Gender Equality and Women’s Rights: Priorities for the Post-2015 Framework*. Technical Brief. Available at <<http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/Long%20version%20-%20Financing%20the%20unfinished%20business%20of%20gender%20equality.pdf>> Accessed 1 August 2014.

Figure 1: Critical role for civil society

Your national advocacy plan – why is it so important to post-2015?

Why? The next framework will affect all our lives, so it is imperative that it reflects your priorities and those of your constituents. Such priorities include sexual and reproductive health and rights, among others.

Who? National civil society organizations can work together to advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights with your government to ensure a strong position at national and global levels.

How? Meet with, or write to your Ministry of Foreign Affairs and/or Ministry of Health to ensure that sexual and reproductive health and rights is at the core of your government's position on the post-2015 framework. This includes making sure that your country's Mission in New York accurately represents this position on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

What? Post-2015 is likely to become more focused as negotiations between governments take place. Your country's permanent New York-based Mission will represent your government's position in the international UN negotiations; on occasion, your government may also send representatives from 'Capital' (representatives from your country) to attend these negotiations.

When? Some negotiations have already taken place. The final post-2015 negotiations will take shape between now and September 2015.

So, taken together, continued work at the national level now will help to influence negotiations at the UN and therefore, in turn, will help to influence the new post-2015 development framework.

How will post-2015 be different to the MDGs?

The Millennium Development Goals were successful in that they prioritized certain issues: if investments were made in these areas, they were intended to help reduce poverty and transform lives. Great progress was made in some areas; in others, such as MDG5b, progress has been uneven. However, the Goals were widely understood to be applicable only to 'developing countries' due to the targets set out under each Goal.

A topic of discussion by Member States is that the post-2015 framework will be universally applicable to all countries. The targets will be set nationally to take into account different realities, and the targets will be written in such a way that every government will need to take action, such as 'eliminate violence against women and girls'.

Post-2015 will be more holistic than the Millennium Development Goals, and will take into consideration all three pillars of sustainable development – economic, environmental and social – with the potential of a fourth pillar – peace and security. Unlike the MDGs, post-2015 has so far undergone extensive consultation with Member States and civil society, so it is absolutely paramount to get involved to make your voice heard.

What is coming next, and how can we engage with the process?

What are the next steps, and what can you do to ensure that sexual and reproductive health and rights is included in the post-2015 framework? Although much of the post-2015 process is yet to be determined, we can map some key milestones coming up.

Opportunity	Date to take action	Action required	Level of action	Advocacy target	Expected result
<p>Open Working Group (OWG)² proposal for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</p> <p>The OWG presents us with a lot of consensus that has already happened between governments. The next steps should be to continue this consensus building to define the goals and targets that will replace the MDGs. The OWG proposals for SDGs are not perfect, but do offer a platform to finesse the huge amount of work already undertaken to bring agreement among Member States.</p>	First 2 weeks of September	Send a letter to your government or your New York Permanent Mission representative, congratulating them on the proposal and asking them to build on the work of the OWG for the next round of post-2015 negotiations, instead of starting over, and to keep prioritizing sexual and reproductive health and rights. ³	National	New York Permanent Mission ⁴	OWG proposal for SDGs to be incorporated into the post-2015 process.
<p>International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Index Report</p>	First 2 weeks of September	Meet with, or write to your government to continue advocating for the outcomes from your Regional Conference on Population and Development with your government to be reflected in post-2015.	National	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Copy correspondence to UN representative in New York	ICPD Index Report to serve as one of the inputs into the UN Secretary-General's Synthesis Report on Post-2015 to ensure the outcome of ICPD Beyond 2014 is carried into post-2015.

² See page 12 for more information about the Open Working Group.

³ See page 12 for more information about the proposal and post-2015 work.

⁴ Contact details of your government's representation at the UN can be found at <http://www.un.int/protocol/bluebook/bb304.pdf>

Opportunity	Date to take action	Action required	Level of action	Advocacy target	Expected result
<p>High-level Stocktaking Event on the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Contributions to the Secretary-General's Synthesis Report (11–12 September)</p> <p>This meeting will reflect on the various post-2015-related processes during the current General Assembly and allow Member States and stakeholders to identify possible inputs into the Secretary-General's Synthesis Report, work of the 69th session of the General Assembly and the post-2015 development agenda.</p>	11–12 September	<p>If you are attending, advocate for the outputs of ICPD Beyond 2014 – including the ICPD Index Report and the OWG proposals for SDGs – to be inputs for the post-2015 negotiations.</p> <p>Before the event, or if you are not attending, contact your government to advocate for the outputs of ICPD Beyond 2014 – including the ICPD Index Report and the OWG proposals for SDGs – to be inputs for the post-2015 negotiations.</p>	<p>International</p> <p>National</p>	<p>John Ashe, President of the General Assembly New York Permanent Mission</p>	
<p>UN General Assembly</p> <p>Heads of state gather in New York to participate in three different events that will influence post-2015:</p> <p>1. Post-2015 taking stock event (11–12 September) Governments can make recommendations that they want to be taken forward for post-2015. Led by the President of the General Assembly.</p> <p>2. Follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (22 September) Governments should make strong speeches supporting ICPD and calling for sexual and reproductive health and rights to be included in the next development framework.</p> <p>3. General debate: Delivering on and Implementing a Transformative Post-2015 Development Agenda (starting 24 September) Governments should make strong speeches supporting ICPD and calling for sexual and reproductive health and rights to be included in the next development framework.</p>	First 2 weeks of September	<p>Meet with, or write to your Ministry of Foreign Affairs and offer it technical support to develop your government's speeches and statements for the three events.</p> <p>Copy all correspondence to your UN representatives so everyone has the same messages.⁵</p>	National	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Copy correspondence to UN representative in New York</p>	<p>1. Stocktaking – outcome to be decided.</p> <p>2. and 3. Heads of state deliver speeches at the three events that call for sexual and reproductive health and rights to be included in the health goal and for universal access to reproductive health supplies. These statements do not feed directly into a process, but they are useful because they set the tone for post-2015. Positive public statements may be useful for leverage on positions later on in the process.</p>

5 Contact details of your government's representation at the UN can be found at <http://www.un.int/protocol/bluebook/bb304.pdf>

Opportunity	Date to take action	Action required	Level of action	Advocacy target	Expected result
<p>Indicator development</p> <p>Governments are asked about their preferred indicators for post-2015 (this is already happening in Europe).</p>	Starting in September 2014, will continue through 2015	<p>Offer your government technical support for post-2015 indicator development.</p> <p>Draft with civil society partners your preferred indicators for post-2015 – share these with your government.</p>	National	Post-2015 focal point in national government – if you lack direct access to this person, access via your usual contacts.	Countries call for strong sexual and reproductive health and rights, youth and family planning indicators.
<p>Synthesis Report on Post-2015 by UN Secretary-General (published November 2014)</p> <p>This report will be a synthesis of the High-level Panel Report, Open Working Group Report, Financing Report, Sustainable Solutions Development Network Report and the Stocktaking Report by the UN Secretary-General .</p> <p>This Synthesis Report will act as the zero draft (the baseline document which is used to work from) for post-2015 so it is very important.</p> <p>Advocates should lobby for outputs of ICPD Beyond 2014 to be a mandatory input of the Synthesis Report, such as the Index Report.</p>	September 2014 onwards	<p>Meet with the post-2015 representative and Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss inputs into the Synthesis Report. Ask that they push for the ICPD Index Report to be a mandatory input into the Synthesis Report and to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights and reproductive health supplies, particularly targets and indicators in the input reports.</p>	National	<p>Primary target: UN Secretary-General's office to make sure strong messages are included about reproductive health supplies, including targets and indicators.</p> <p>Secondary target: National government post-2015 focal point and UN mission.</p>	Strong sexual and reproductive health and rights, family planning and reproductive health supplies indicators included in the report.
<p><u>Regional Beijing+20 Review</u></p> <p>To review the progress made in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 20 years after its adoption at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.</p> <p>The session will also address current challenges that affect the implementation of the Platform for Action, as well as opportunities for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women in the post-2015 development agenda.</p>	November 2014	<p>Meet with your government to find out its Beijing+20 plans, and advocate that sexual and reproductive health and rights is central to achieving gender equality.</p>	<p>National</p> <p>Regional</p>	<p>Regional Commissions of the UN</p> <p>Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Development</p>	
<p>Commission on the Status of Women, review of the Beijing Platform for Action</p>	March 2015	<p>On-going national advocacy to position sexual and reproductive health and rights with your government.</p>			
<p>Commission on Population and Development on post-2015</p>	April 2015	<p>On-going national advocacy to position sexual and reproductive health and rights with your government.</p>			

As the processes come together and more details become available, we will release another briefing to set out the key opportunities and actions to take to ensure sexual and reproductive health and rights is included in the post-2015 framework.

On-going national advocacy work

Make friends with government In addition to mobilizing action to connect with key milestones and events, it is vital to try and continue conversations with your government, to keep pushing sexual and reproductive health and rights priorities and asks for post-2015, and for your government to regard you as a trusted technical resource on these issues. This consistent messaging and pressure can position sexual and reproductive health and rights positively with your government and make advocacy easier for future events.

Make sure your government and New York Mission are saying the same thing. Some Mission representatives do not always present the national position of their government because of the broader geopolitical picture at the United Nations, where many other issues and events may influence how a Mission acts. If you find your Mission is not representing your government's positive sexual and reproductive health and rights position appropriately, you can take the following action:

- Copy your New York Mission into all correspondence you send to your government so it regularly and consistently receives your key messages and positions.
- Whenever you meet with your government, ask what its Mission is

doing and saying in New York, and ask your government what lines it is telling the Mission to take.

- If you know your Mission is not aligning itself accurately to your government's positive position on sexual and reproductive health and rights, tell your government, and ask your government to rectify this. Part of civil society's role is to act as a watchdog to hold our representatives to account.
- Know your national policy and legislation on sexual and reproductive health and rights. If your Mission is making public statements that contradict national policy, take them aside and discuss it with them. Mission staff are not usually issue experts and they may not know the finer points of your country's policies.

What else you can do:

- Share key research and statistics to demonstrate your advocacy asks.
- Share key findings from national consultations showing national priorities.
- Work with partners and alliances to advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights with your government, including sharing intelligence and building a cohesive advocacy strategy.

- Have a number of spokespeople to make it crystal clear that it is the position of a movement and not just one agency.
- Map your national policies on sexual and reproductive health and rights and note what your government is saying in regional and international dialogues (for example, whether it has signed up to key regional and international agreements); cross-check to see if these align, and use the findings in your strategy to advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights. Language found in international agreements is referred to as 'negotiated language' or 'agreed language'. This often makes it easier to advocate for because there is already consensus for the language as opposed to 'new' language that has not already been agreed.
- Monitor your government's international and regional negotiating positions. If your government is supportive of sexual and reproductive health and rights, encourage government to speak out in its national capacity at these negotiations. If your government does not support certain sexual and reproductive health and rights issues, encourage your government to stay silent rather than speaking out against them.

Countries in the United Nations

Countries tend to negotiate and vote in 'blocs' in international UN spaces. A bloc is a grouping of governments who take a common position on an issue. When there isn't a common position, governments are able to speak 'out of bloc and in their national capacity'. The blocs usually nominate one country to speak on the bloc's behalf throughout an inter-governmental process. There are formal and informal blocs.

The list below does not address all blocs and alliances, but highlights the significant ones for sexual and reproductive health and rights issues.

EU bloc They tend to negotiate as a bloc; however, when it comes to sexual and reproductive health and rights, they will sometimes speak out in their national capacities because of differing positions on some elements of sexual and reproductive health and rights. Most countries in this bloc are

supportive of such rights. Historically, the opposition on these rights came from Malta and Poland, but in recent negotiations we have seen Hungary playing an obstructive role in advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Arab bloc This is a loose and undefined grouping of Arab states, and the informal nature of this bloc makes it hard to influence this group. Egypt tends to dominate the group. Egypt has membership in both the Western Asia and African UN Regional Commissions so it exercises its voice in both blocs; this strengthens Egypt's influence at the international level.

Africa bloc They almost always speak as one bloc and rarely speak out in national capacities with the exception of South Africa, and sometimes Zambia. This can work if the 'chair' (a rotational leader of the bloc at different

inter-governmental processes) consults and reflects the wishes of all its members. There are sometimes distinct Francophone and Anglophone powers played out within this bloc.

Latin America bloc This bloc represents a huge tug of war between socially liberal and socially and religiously conservative states. Countries in this bloc often speak out in national capacities in support of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Pacific bloc This bloc is a new champion for sexual and reproductive health and rights. This bloc came together for the first time in 2013 to support such rights. The Pacific bloc also sometimes comes together with other Small Island States (such as the Caribbean Islands) to form the Small Island States bloc, although this has not happened for sexual and reproductive health and rights issues.



What have we ‘won’, and what do we still need to advocate on?

So ... where are we in terms of sexual and reproductive health and rights at the global level, and what is still missing? There have been incredible efforts to ensure sexual and reproductive health and rights in – and beyond – all the processes described earlier.

Some of the major gains at the global level so far include the following:

Gains in sexual and reproductive health and rights	Member States process where it was agreed
Stand-alone goal on gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSW 2014 ■ OWG
Universal access to sexual and reproductive health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CPD 2014 ■ OWG
Reproductive rights (although this is sometimes qualified, this means the definition of reproductive rights is limited to certain definitions, as opposed to being all-encompassing; this is problematic as it does not advance reproductive rights)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSW 2014 ■ CPD 2014 ■ OWG
Addressing violence and discrimination on any grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSW 2014 ■ CPD 2014 ■ OWG
Calls for disaggregation of data by gender at the very least (this needs to go further by also disaggregating data by age, socio-economic group and region)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSW 2014 ■ CPD 2014 ■ OWG
Linking ICPD Beyond 2014 to post-2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CPD 2014

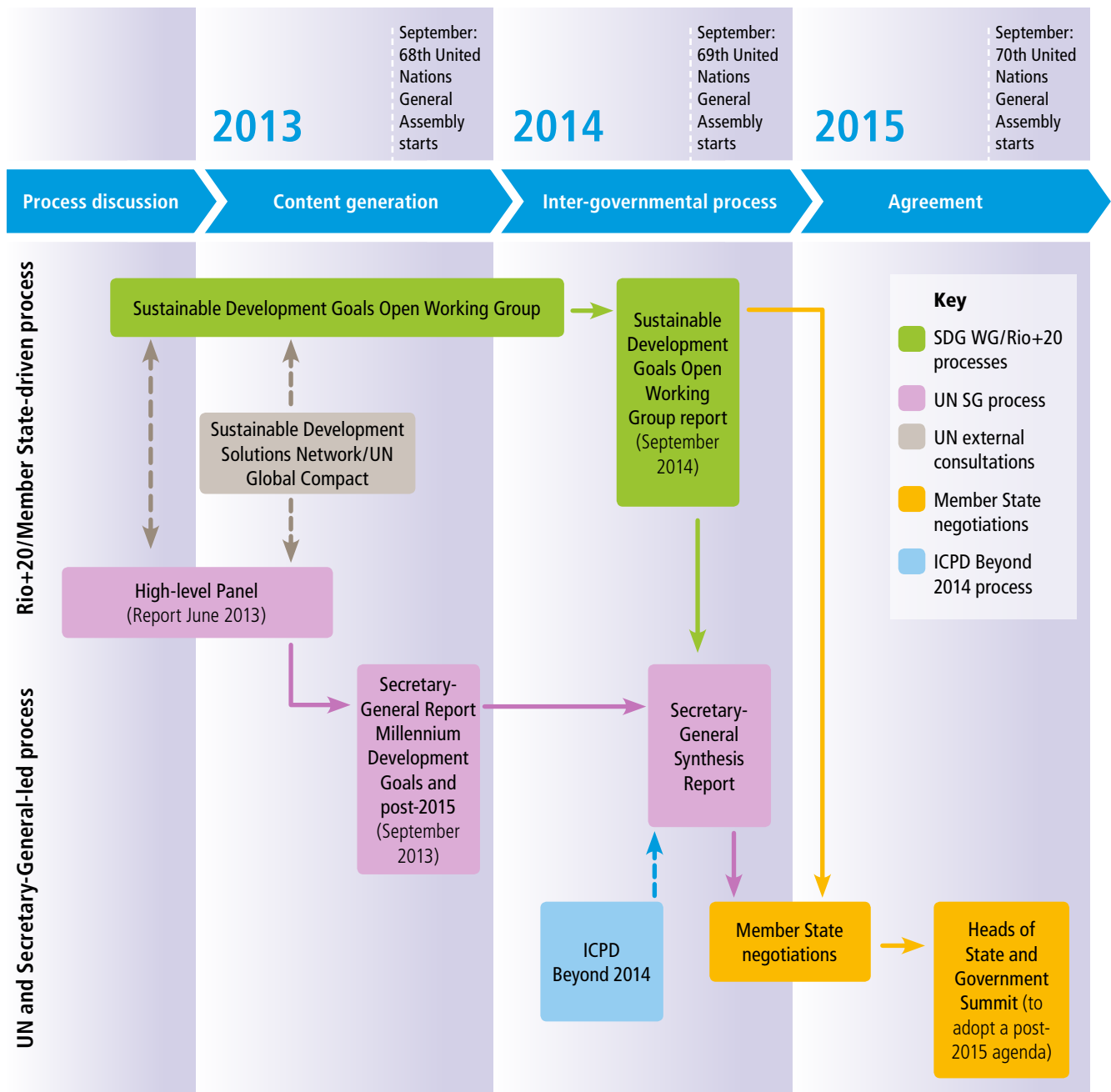
Where challenges still remain:

- Access to safe abortion and abortion law reform.
- Violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender equality.
- Sexual rights (currently there is only recognition of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights).
- Young people’s sexual and reproductive health and rights needs, including comprehensive sexuality education.

What has taken place so far in the process, and how did we get here?

As mentioned earlier, there have been many parallel processes which have been labelled collectively as the 'post-2015 process'.

Figure 2: Key processes feeding into the post-2015 development agenda



The next important 'milestone' in the post-2015 'marathon' will be the Secretary-General's Synthesis Report on Post-2015, due in November 2014. This may serve as the basis for negotiations by the Member States that will end in September 2015 with the adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

In order to put his report together, the Secretary-General will take into consideration the outcomes or recommendations of the following processes or bodies, among others. We have divided these into three categories as an aid to clarity. It is important to note that each of these processes has had different levels of civil society participation and input:

1. inter-governmental processes
2. experts groups
3. consultations

In the following section we provide a briefing about each of these processes or bodies, their inputs related to sexual and reproductive health and rights, and some thoughts about next steps:

Inter-governmental processes

1. Proposal of the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals process originated from the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) where Member States agreed to set up an inter-governmental process. These Goals underscore the fact that poverty eradication can only be achieved if the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development are addressed in a holistic way.

The discussions have taken place in the context of the United Nations General Assembly and under the leadership of an Open Working Group. This Group is composed of 30 seats which are shared by 70 Member States (in 'troika'), but all States can participate. It was chaired by Hungary and Kenya. The Open Working Group structured its work into two phases; the *input/stocktaking phase* (March 2013–February 2014), when the Group took stock and gathered inputs on a variety of topics; and the *consensus building phase* (March 2014–September 2014), when the Group took into account the inputs received in the first phase and tried to build consensus around themes, goals and targets to develop proposals for the Sustainable

Development Goals. There were 13 Working Group sessions. The final proposal will be presented at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2014.

Outcome

- The [final Open Working Group proposal text](#) for the Sustainable Development Goals moves sexual and reproductive health and rights beyond Millennium Development Goal 5b.
- Sexual and reproductive health/reproductive rights features under two goals: health and gender. However, under 'gender', sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights is limited to existing definitions from the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and Beijing.

How civil society participated

Civil society and other stakeholders have been participating in the Open Working Group through the [Major Groups system](#). At a national level, advocates have been working to ensure their governments were prioritizing their needs in the Open Working Group discussions.

Open Working Group proposal for the Sustainable Development Goals: sexual and reproductive health and rights highlights

Proposed goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

- 3.1 By 2030 reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.
- 3.7 By 2030 ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes.

- 3.3 By 2030 end the epidemics of AIDS...

Proposed goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- 5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the ICPD and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences.

2. The International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014 Review

The International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action was agreed in Cairo in 1994. This was the first time that the concept of ‘reproductive rights’ was recognized, shifting the population paradigm from numbers to people-centred, rights-based approaches. In 2010, Member States agreed a process to review the implementation of the Programme of Action, and identify unfinished and emerging business. Since then there has been a series of data collection at the national level, thematic consultations and regional inter-governmental meetings:

this is known as the ICPD Beyond 2014 Review. Figure 3 shows a visual representation of the different elements

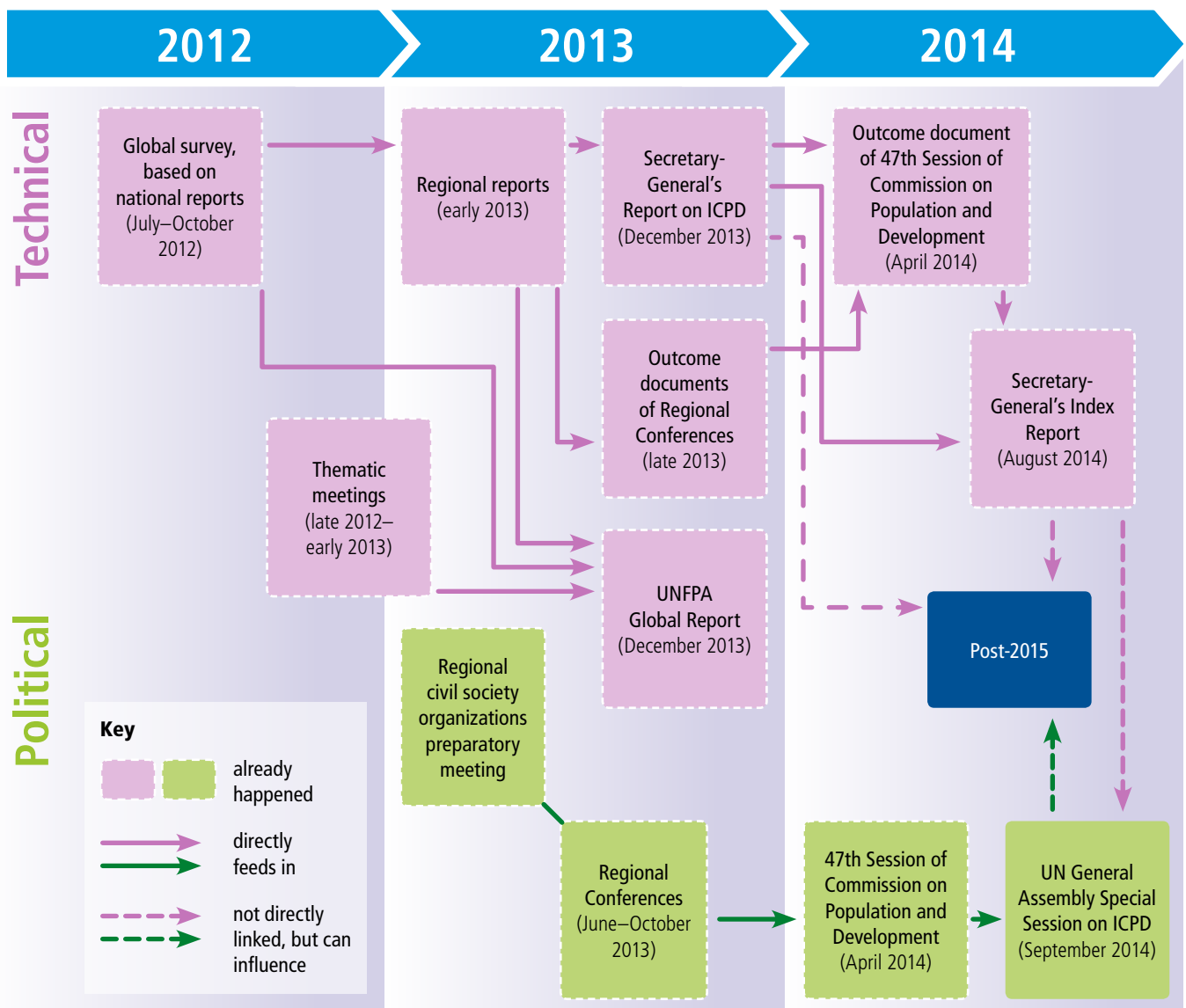
of this process and how it might feed into the formation of the post-2015 development framework.

Commission on Population and Development (CPD)

The Commission on Population and Development – CPD – is not the ICPD. CPD is a functional Commission of the UN Economic and Social Council. This Commission, which consists of Member States, looks at and advises the Council on population trends and issues, policies and programmes. Since 1994, the Commission’s primary role has been to monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International

Conference on Population and Development at national, regional and international levels. The Commission meets annually, and each year it focuses on a different theme. The 47th session in 2014 was special as it was the 20th anniversary of the ICPD and the session looked at the Programme of Action as a whole, drawing on the last two years of evidence and outcomes from the ICPD Beyond 2014 review process.

Figure 3: Key elements of the ICPD Beyond 2014 Review



Outcome

Some regional reports and meeting outcomes fed into the subsequent meeting and reports within ICPD Beyond 2014. Here are some key sexual and reproductive health and rights outcomes:

- Commonalities in ICPD Regional Reviews included:
 - Reaffirming Member States' commitment to the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action.
 - Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (except in the Western Asia region where they called for universal access to sexual and reproductive health) including the elimination of violence or discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, and comprehensive sexuality education.
 - Adolescents' access to sexual and reproductive health services, including comprehensive sexuality education.
 - Universal access to contraceptive information, services and supplies, and access to safe and legal abortion services without restriction.
 - Elimination of violence against women and girls and all discrimination based on gender.
 - Universal access to HIV services: access to integrated services, treatment and care.
 - Planning population dynamics for growth and development.
- The [47th session of the Commission on Population and Development](#) reaffirmed Member States' commitment to the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action, recognized the documents from the Regional Conferences on Population and Development, and linked ICPD Beyond 2014 to post-2015.

How civil society participated

The ICPD Beyond 2014 process included many consultations, where civil society experts were invited to input into various documents such as the national responses to the ICPD Global Survey. In addition, civil society was heavily engaged through the following processes:

- Participating in the ICPD thematic conferences (Youth, Human Rights, Women's Health), the Regional Review Conferences, and the Commission on Population and Development as observers to monitor country positions or make interventions.
- Participating in preparatory Regional Review civil society organization meetings.

- Some civil society organizations were on their country delegations to the inter-governmental meetings (Regional Reviews and Commission on Population and Development): this means that those civil society organizations that had access to government-only negotiation spaces could advise their government on key issues.

National civil society has been working with national governments to ensure that the key priorities from the ICPD Programme of Action and emerging issues are reflected in each inter-governmental outcome.

How Beyond 2014 fits into post-2015

The timing of the ICPD Beyond 2014 is beneficial. One year before the adoption of the next development framework, it gives us the opportunity to build a position and mobilize support for sexual and reproductive health and rights before the post-2015 negotiations by using the sexual rights champions and tools developed during the review as a platform for post-2015. The Index Report that draws on the findings from ICPD Beyond 2014 may

be put forward as an input into the Secretary-General's Synthesis Report on post-2015. Member States have already reaffirmed their commitment to the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and to take sexual and reproductive health and rights issues into post-2015 at the ICPD Regional Population and Development Conferences and CPD47.

Experts groups

High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

The High-level Panel, set up in May 2012, is composed of 27 leaders and experts, serving in their personal capacities, from government, civil society, academia and the private sector. They met together, and held civil society consultations to produce a vision of the post-2015 development agenda. In May 2013 they released a report to the UN Secretary-General called 'A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies Through Sustainable Development'.

Key outcomes from the report

The report called for the following:

- A specific target on sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- A continuation of the unmet Millennium Development Goals.
- A stand-alone goal on gender.
- Disaggregation of indicators by income, gender, disability, ages and those living in different localities.

Sustainable Development Solutions Network

Launched by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in August 2012, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network mobilizes scientific and technical expertise from academia, civil society and the private sector in support of sustainable development problem-solving at local, national and global scales. Under the leadership of Jeffrey Sachs, the Network developed the report 'An Action Agenda for Sustainable Development', that was delivered to the UN Secretary-General. It outlines 10 sustainable development priorities, covering the four main dimensions of sustainable development: economic growth and the end of poverty, social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and good governance.

Key outcome from the report

- A target on sexual and reproductive health and rights under goal 2.

Consultations

President of the General Assembly events on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

The Office of the President of the General Assembly held a series of high-level events and thematic debates from February–June 2014 to encourage the global community to work towards building consensus and setting out concrete actions to implement the post-2015 development agenda. The President of the General Assembly aimed to support Member States on their journey to set clear priorities for post-2015.

A Million Voices: The World We Want

The World We Want 2015 website launched a series of civil society consultations –national, thematic and online-based. There were 11 thematic consultations including health and population dynamics. The health consultation recognized that the initial exclusion of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights from the Millennium Development Goals "has hindered progress on the MDGs themselves, and equitable progress in overall health outcomes."

Key outcomes from A Million Voices consultation

The consultation called for the following:

- Universal access to sexual and reproductive health services.
- Gender equality.
- Perspective of young people, particularly in education.
- The need to address inequalities and marginalization, including sexual orientation.
- Need for rights-based, gender-responsive policies.

Glossary of terminology

Governments When we refer to ‘contacting your government’ we mean the individual or department in your country that is leading its post-2015 engagement and your country’s Permanent Mission in New York. This will usually be your Ministry of Foreign Affairs, your Ministry of Development or a specific post-2015 contact Permanent Mission in New York. As your country’s representative/ambassador to the United Nations in New York, they will represent your country in international negotiations.

Member States We use the term ‘United Nations Member States’ as another name for countries or governments.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) These are eight international Goals that aim to accelerate development in the world’s poorest countries. The Goals have the target date of 2015. The Millennium Development Goals are set out in 21 time-bound, quantitative targets and 48 indicators for measuring and monitoring progress.

Negotiation This is an inter-governmental process whereby Member States discuss, compromise and bargain on a set of commitments in any area, including sustainable development.

Post-2015 development framework This global framework and set of goals on sustainable development and poverty eradication will replace the Millennium Development Goals when they end in 2015.

Sexual and reproductive rights Sexual rights and reproductive rights are closely related but distinct. Reproductive rights are human rights as they relate to a person’s fertility, reproduction, reproductive health and parenthood.

Reproductive rights are acknowledged in many treaties and international frameworks such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and the Beijing Platform for Action. These rights rest on the recognition of the basic right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children and to have the information and means to do so, and the right to attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health. It also includes their right to make decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence, as expressed in human rights documents.

Sexual rights are constituted by a set of entitlements related to sexuality, sexual orientation, gender identity, sexual behaviour and sexual health that emanate from the rights to freedom, equality, privacy, autonomy, integrity and dignity of all people. There is no internationally agreed definition of sexual rights. The Montevideo Consensus, a regional agreement, states that sexual rights “embrace the right to a safe and full sex life, as well as the right to take free, informed, voluntary and responsible decisions on their sexuality, sexual orientation and gender identity, without coercion, discrimination or violence, and that guarantee the right to information and the means necessary for their sexual health and reproductive health.”

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) This represents an outcome from the Rio+20 conference where Member States agreed to launch a process to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals that will build on the Millennium Development Goals and converge with the post-2015 development agenda.

UN resolution A UN resolution is a formal text setting out commitments and actions adopted by a United Nations (UN) body made up of participating Member States, such as the Commission on Population and Development or the General Assembly.

Who we are

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. We are a worldwide movement of national organizations working with and for communities and individuals.



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4 Newhams Row
London SE1 3UZ
United Kingdom

tel: +44 20 7939 8200
fax: +44 20 7939 8300
web www.ippf.org
email: info@ippf.org

UK Registered Charity No. 229476

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