



## **UNDG meeting**

6 February 2014, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM (EST)

DC1 – 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, Hank Shannon Conference Room

## **Meeting Report**

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### **Opening by the UNDG Chair**

1. The UNDG Chair, Helen Clark, opened the first UNDG meeting of 2014 by welcoming Kanni Wignaraja as the new Director of UN DOCO and William Harris as the new representative of UNEP in the UNDG. The UNDG Chair announced that Flavia Pansieri, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, would be assuming the function of UNDG Vice-Chair and that Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen, UNFPA Deputy Executive Director, would be taking over as new UNDG ASG Advisory Group Chair in 2014. The UNDG Chair recognized the achievements of Telma Viale, ILO Special Representative to the UN, and Yoka Brandt, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director, in leading the implementation of the UNDG Strategic Priorities as UNDG Vice-Chair and ASG Advisory Group Chair respectively in 2013.

2. The UNDG Chair highlighted that for the first time, the QCPR was being monitored through a single reporting framework with system-wide indicators and that the funds and programmes as well as several specialized agencies had aligned their respective new Strategic Plans (2014-2017) with the QCPR both in timing and in content. In the year ahead, it would now be critical for the UNDG to focus on implementation, gather evidence, report on results, and ensure that feedback and lessons learned were captured to inform policies and processes at the global and regional levels.

3. A second key achievement of the UNDG had been the global public outreach and consultation process on the Post 2015 agenda, which had taken place on an unprecedented scale. Almost two million people from more than 190 countries had shared their priorities for a new agenda through national and thematic consultations, and through on and off-line ranking of priorities through the MY World survey. The Secretary-General had participated in the launch of the UNDG report 'A Million Voices: The World We Want' and the public consultation process had also been duly acknowledged in the outcome document of the MDG Special Event in September 2013. The UNDG Chair emphasized that the UNDG would need to remain jointly engaged to support Member States in areas of integrated development policy and practice, with DESA and UNDP jointly co-chairing the UN Task Team in support of the Open Working Group and the Expert Committee on Sustainable Development Financing.

4. As a third milestone, the UNDG Chair highlighted the timely development and roll-out of the Delivering as One (DaO) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure that the second generation of DaO was firmly focused on results, while also increasing efficiencies and lowering transaction costs. The Co-Conveners of the UNDG working mechanisms and colleagues from HLCM would be holding a retreat on 19 February 2014 to finalize a complementary guidance package for UNCTs. The UNDG Chair emphasized that the UN system had a truly strategic opportunity to reposition itself, delivering together for higher relevance and impact, as UNCTs were getting ready to develop new UNDAFs in over 40 countries in 2014, and another 40 countries in 2015. The UNDG

Chair underlined that the UNDG had an obligation to ensure that the SOPs were fully implemented whenever countries requested them to be applied and that all UNCTs should be deeply familiar with them given that the UNDG considered them to be best practice. The UNDG Chair emphasized that the second generation of DaO would need to be fully focused on results and sound monitoring, which would need to be factored in right from the beginning so as to allow for measuring baselines and not to repeat the mistakes made during the DaO pilot phase.

5. The UNDG Chair noted that it would be equally important for the UNDG to reach final agreement today on a 'Plan of Action for Headquarters' to address remaining bottlenecks at UN headquarters and drive full implementation of the SOPs at the country level. Progress on this front would also be important to get traction for the new 'Delivering Results Together (DRT) Fund', which had succeeded the Delivering as One Expanded Funding Window at the global level. The DRT Fund would help increase the predictability of funding for UN programmes in Delivering as One countries by focusing on achieving results, making performance-based allocations, and strengthening management and accountability across the results chain. Norway had already contributed USD 13 million to the fund and DOCO would be organizing a side event at the margins of the forthcoming ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment to get other donors on board as well.

6. As a fourth critical UNDG achievement, the UNDG Chair highlighted that the global UNDG cost-sharing agreement had entered into effect in January. As the UNDG was shifting to an entirely new approach to funding, it would be critical to closely monitor the impact and sustainability of the new system, especially since the UNDG would already need to start preparations for the next funding cycle later this year, as several agencies would need to submit their draft budgets for 2016/17 in early 2015. The UNDG Chair noted that many agencies had already paid their full contributions, including the pro forma cost adjustment for 2014, which would need to be built into future rounds of the cost-sharing modality as the deficit would otherwise grow over time. The UNDG Chair emphasized that the ten agreed co-ordination functions at the country level would need to be interpreted narrowly since the available funding would only be sufficient to cover basic needs of UN Country Teams.

7. The UNDG Chair highlighted that the strong messages coming from Member States reaffirmed the series of important reform initiatives the UNDG had jointly embarked on over the course of 2013. The UNDG Chair mentioned a number of key event in 2014, which the UNDG should seize to leverage a system-wide perspective and further build on the common agenda, including the sessions of the Open Working Group, the ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment (February), a series of GA High-Level Events on the Post-2015 Agenda, the 47th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (April), the First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-Operation (April), the Fourth ECOSOC Development Cooperation Forum (July), the Climate Summit hosted by the Secretary-General (September).

8. The UNDG Chair noted that the UNDG, with support from DOCO, should also consider how it could ensure joined-up engagement in the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States to be held from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia, Samoa, the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) to be held from 19 to 21 November 2014 in Rome, the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction scheduled to take place in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan, the Third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016, as well as the World Humanitarian Summit to be held in May 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey.

9. UNFPA informed the UNDG on the forthcoming Secretary-General's report on the recently conducted review on the follow-up to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on

Population and Development (ICPD) Beyond 2014. The review had been led by the UN Secretariat and UNFPA with extensive inputs from across the UN system and in consultation with Member States. At the core of the review is the challenge of inequalities and how gender equality, investment in youth, education, and health, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, are the basis for equitable and sustainable development.

**10. The UNDG Chair indicated that she would forward the report to Resident Co-ordinators and to the Chairs of the Regional UNDG Teams. The report would also be sent to all UNDG Principals. UNDG members are requested to encourage their Executive Heads to embrace its forward-looking messages, including in the context of the Post-2015 deliberations.**

**Item 1: Preparation of CEB Spring Session: Capacity of the UNDG and its fitness for purpose to implement the new sustainable development agenda**

11. The UNDG Chair noted that at its last session in November 2013, the CEB requested the UNDG to elaborate a set of options across global, regional and country levels on how best the UN system can support Member States in implementing sustainable development to inform the next CEB meeting on 8/9 May 2014. The UNDG noted that it was very timely for the UNDG to start having an in-depth discussion on how the UN development system needed to change and adapt in order to play a leading role post-2015.

12. The UNDG Chair emphasized that for the UN development system to be in a position to effectively support countries in integrated policy design and implementation, the UN system itself would need to become better joined-up. The UNDG had an indispensable role to play in implementation through UN Country Teams on the ground. The upcoming roll-out of new UNDAFs in some 80 countries would provide an exceptional opportunity in this regard. The UNDG would also need to look at key issues in the transition from MDGs to SDGs, determine whether existing tools such as the MDG Acceleration Framework could be applied quickly as diagnostic tools and support fostering linkages between normative and operational issues. The UNDG would also need to consider how to leverage critical mass in a cash-strapped environment and whether a fresh, system-wide look at how the UN system can most effectively and efficiently operate at the country level was called for, including by drawing on the lessons learned from Delivering as One and the MDG Achievement Fund.

13. The UNDG ASG Advisory Group Chair, Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen, presented the background of the CEB request by noting that the tight timeframe until the CEB meeting would require the UNDG to move swiftly on framing the issues along the lines proposed by the UNDG Chair as well as the additional issues compiled in the decision sheet annex. She indicated that the ASG Advisory Group would convene an initial half-day retreat on 19 February. The ASG Advisory Group would be inviting Bruce Jenks and Bruce Jones to present their paper 'UN development at a crossroads' and the discussion would also be informed by the ongoing thinking and initiatives within UNDG member organizations on 'fit for purpose.' The full UNDG would then be invited to review a draft options paper around the end of March. A final draft would subsequently be submitted to the UNDG for electronic endorsement ahead of the CEB meeting in May. The options paper would not be expected to be a polished report but would rather serve to frame the discussion at the CEB.

14. The ASG Advisory Group Chair noted that, in addition, UNDG members would be invited to look at the current UNDG architecture and working procedures at headquarters with a view to streamlining some of the

mechanisms and processes. The objective would be to drive the UNDG agenda in a more focused way with emphasis on integrated policy solutions. The ASG Advisory Group Chair proposed that such streamlining could be shaped around four distinct pillars – the Delivering as One Standard Operating Procedures, the MDG/SDG agenda, Human Rights, and post-crisis and transition issues. These pillars could be complemented with smaller, nimble task teams with time-bound mandates. Moreover, some UNDG members had requested to be considered for non-rotational membership in the UNDG Advisory Group and the utility of the Advisory Group for the UNDG Chair and the UNDG would need to be looked at in this context as well.

15. UNDG members welcomed the CEB initiative as an important opportunity to identify a focused set of key issues, which would allow the UNDG to become fit for purpose, including through streamlining its working mechanisms and processes at headquarters. UNDG members emphasized that the exercise would need to be closely coordinated with the parallel efforts carried out by HLCP through DOCO and the CEB Secretariat.

16. UNDG members highlighted the following issues as deserving particular attention: Enhanced focus on Rights Up Front, creating more effective linkages between humanitarian and development work, as well as between peacekeeping and human rights, accelerated harmonization of business practices, and current funding trends affecting the UN system's capacity to deliver. UNDG members agreed that the options paper should also not shy away from putting some challenges back to Member States, which prevented the UN system from being more integrated with regard to common results frameworks and accountability systems. DESA advised that the Secretary-General's final report on the implementation of the current QCPR in 2016 would provide the UN development system with a formal opportunity to present its views with regard to required change and reform.

**17. The UNDG requested the UNDG ASG Advisory Group to further elaborate a set of options across global, regional and country levels on how best the UN system can support Member States in implementing the new sustainable development agenda for consideration and approval by the UNDG in preparation of the CEB meeting on 8/9 May 2014.**

**18. The UNDG requested DOCO to carry out a brief review of the architecture and functioning of the UNDG working mechanisms at headquarters, in consultation with the ASG Advisory Group and the UNDG working mechanisms, and to propose a set of options for ensuring that the UNDG is optimally configured and fit for purpose to be considered at the next UNDG meeting.**

## **Item 2: Preparations for ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment**

19. Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, DESA, briefed the UNDG on the status of the preparations for the ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment (OAS) on 24-26 February. Mr. Gass highlighted that the ECOSOC OAS would for the first time be held back-to-back with the Executive Board meetings of the UN funds and programmes. The forthcoming ECOSOC OAS would focus on reviewing progress of the implementation of the QCPR as well as the role of the UN development system in a changing development co-operation landscape. It would be informed by the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the QCPR.

20. Mr. Gass thanked the UNDG for the close collaboration in the preparation of the Secretary-General's report and the preparation of the ECOSOC OAS. The participation of so many UN leaders would add significant value and would also be highly appreciated by Member States. The ECOSOC OAS would be an opportunity to discuss the current and emerging substantive priorities of the UN system, particularly in the context of a post-2015 development agenda. It would also be a timely opportunity to share initial thoughts and set the ground for a broader dialogue on how the UN development system can become 'fit for purpose' to deliver on the emerging post-2015 agenda.

21. Mr. Gass noted that UN leaders would be invited to share their perspectives on progress made against the QCPR, which would be an opportunity to send a strong message of commitment to Member States by illustrating ways of how the UN development system was effectively working together. For the first time, there would also be an event with Specialized Agencies, in which the WHO Director General, Dr. Margaret Chan, would participate.

22. Mr. Gass highlighted that for the first time, implementation of the QCPR would be jointly monitored by the UN system, which had a lot of advantages. At the same time, this would require the UN development system to demonstrate that checks and balances within the system remained in place and that the monitoring and reporting mechanism continued to be rigorous and credible. Moreover, it would be important to ensure complementarity between ECOSOC and the General Assembly, whereby it was important for ECOSOC to focus on monitoring implementation while ensuring that the 'goal posts' established by the General Assembly in the QCPR were not being shifted mid-cycle.

### **Item 3: Update on implementation of RC system cost-sharing**

23. The Director of DOCO, Kanni Wignaraja, briefed the UNDG on the implementation of the UNDG cost-sharing agreement. She thanked UNDG members for the constructive support and engagement throughout the process and noted that the final cost-sharing agreement reflected the feedback received from UNDG member agencies. She emphasized that the agreement was a significant milestone for the UNDG, which promised predictable, sustainable funding for core coordination functions. In order to facilitate timely allocation of resources to RCs/UNCTs and Regional UNDG Teams, agencies were requested to ensure prompt signature of the agreement and transfer of funds by no later than end of February 2014. She further emphasized that it was hoped that all UNDG agencies would be in a position to contribute the actual amounts needed for 2014, which reflected the annual pro forma cost adjustment, as the overall shortfall would otherwise increase.

24. Of the 19 agencies expected to contribute, 10 agencies had indicated that they would be contributing the full amounts (UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, UN Women, WFP, FAO, UNHCR, WHO); 4 agencies had indicated that they planned to contribute reduced amounts (IFAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, WMO), and 3 agencies were pending confirmation (ILO, ITU, UNWTO).<sup>1</sup> The UN Secretariat had indicated that it intended to contribute starting in 2016. The World Bank had declined to contribute.

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<sup>1</sup> ILO has since confirmed its contribution of the full requested amount. Update as of 22 March 2014.

25. The Director of DOCO confirmed that the total funding target for 2014 was USD 33.7 million. To date, DOCO had received payments from 7 agencies (UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNWOMEN, WHO) in the amount of USD 15.3 million. From the other 7 agencies, which had confirmed their contributions, another USD 5.3 million were expected. An additional USD 2 million were expected from the 3 agencies that had yet to confirm their contributions (ILO, ITU, UNWTO).<sup>2</sup> DOCO had managed to mobilize an additional USD 3.6 million from Germany and Switzerland and had also advanced USD 6 million from the strategic reserve of the UN Country Coordination Fund towards the funding gap. This would leave a remaining Net Gap to be mobilized for 2014 of some USD 3 million, which could be further reduced to USD 1 million if the 3 unconfirmed agencies came through.

26. The Director of DOCO noted, however, that more fundraising would be needed for 2015 as the gap for 2015 amounted to USD 11.5 million, or USD 9.5 million if the 3 unconfirmed agencies came through. To close this gap, DOCO would be able to advance USD 3 million from the strategic reserve of the UN Country Coordination Fund, resulting in a remaining Net Gap to be mobilized for 2015 of USD 8.5 million or USD 6.5 million if the 3 unconfirmed agencies come through. Overall, the current Net Gap shortfall for the 2014/15 biennium stood at USD 11.3 million, which would be reduced to USD 7.5 million if the 3 unconfirmed agencies came through.

27. The Director of DOCO noted that the UNDG Chair had written to all RCs and UNCTs to inform them about the necessary phased implementation of the cost-sharing agreement in light of the current funding gap. DOCO had proceeded with issuing the 2014 country allocations on a priority basis to UNCTs, whereby RCs/UNCTs had received full funding for staff capacity for the ten co-ordination functions. Crisis Countries, Low Income Countries and Low Middle Income Countries had only received 50 per cent of their operating budget for now. DOCO would only be in a position to provide them with the full agreed funding amounts if sufficient resources were to be received in the course of the year.

28. The Director of DOCO requested all UNDG members to transfer their contributions as a matter of urgency. She also requested the five agencies that had indicated that they had communicated to their country representatives to no longer engage in local cost-sharing to kindly reconsider. With 36 formal Delivering as One countries and several other countries at the verge of adopting the approach, UN Country Teams would otherwise not be in a position to move this agenda forward as requested in the QCPR.

29. With regard to financial management and reporting, the Director of DOCO noted that UNDP had created a separate RC system fund for UNDG cost-sharing contributions, which would enable UNDP to report to UNDG members by 15 July 2014 and 2015 on expenditures, deficits and surpluses against the agreed RC system standard structure model at the global, regional, and country level. DOCO was meanwhile in the process of revising the RC Annual Reporting Format to be able to provide timely feedback on implementation and impact to the UNDG.

30. The UNDG Chair noted that the UNDG had already received a lot of recognition from Member States for implementing the cost-sharing modality. She called upon all UNDG members in a position to do so to contribute the full, pro forma cost-adjusted amounts in 2014 and 2015 as these deficits would otherwise add up to a

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<sup>2</sup> ILO has since confirmed a contribution to the RC system of USD 3,814,972 for the biennium 2014-2015. Update as of 22 March 2014.

significant funding gap. She emphasized that it would be crucial for the UNDG to factor in pro forma cost adjustments systematically into future rounds of the cost-sharing agreement so that UNDG members could go to their governing bodies with anticipated adjustments. She underlined that for the UN development system to be in a position to drive integrated approaches and sustainable development, it would need to be set up to deliver jointly. The ten co-ordination functions would need to be interpreted realistically in light of the limited funding allocations and the UNDG would need to have a realistic sense of the level of support that one or two staff members could provide to a UN Country Team.

31. **Several UNDG members expressed concern that the World Bank had declined to participate in the UNDG cost-sharing agreement. The UNDG Chair requested DOCO to determine together with the CEB Secretariat whether the Secretary-General could reach out again to the World Bank in this regard.**

#### **Item 4: Preparations for First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation**

32. The UNDG Chair noted that Mexico would be hosting the first High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation on 15-16 April. The meeting would be an important opportunity to take stock of commitments made at the Busan High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011, and discuss several forward-looking issues in development cooperation relating to domestic resource mobilization, middle income countries, South-South cooperation, and the private sector. As was the case for previous high-level events in Paris (2005), Accra (2008), and Busan (2011), a co-ordinated joint UNDG participation would be envisioned.

33. Paolo Galli, Director UN and Multilateral Affairs Cluster, UNDP/BERA, briefed the UNDG on the preparations for the Mexico HLM, which were being jointly supported by UNDP and the OECD. Invitations were about to be sent to Ministers of Development Co-operation and Executive Heads of UN and multilateral organizations. Overall, over one thousand participants would be expected. Mr. Galli noted that the agenda consisted of a combination of plenary sessions and focused side events. The event would be informed by a progress report on the global monitoring process of the Busan commitments, in which 34 countries had participated.

34. **The UNDG decided to establish a time-bound task team to coordinate joint UNDG preparations for the Mexico City HLM with the objectives to (1) facilitate communication and sharing of information between UNDG agencies regarding HLM preparations, (2) prepare a joint UNDG statement for the HLM, (3) co-ordinate joint UNDG participation at the HLM and related side events, and (4) explore the possibility of organizing a joint side event.**

#### **Item 5: UNDG items for approval**

35. The UNDG Chair noted that the four items for decision had been consulted on extensively within the UNDG and requested the Co-Conveners to briefly present each in turn.

#### **a. Updated UNDG Work Plan for 2013-2014**

36. Kanni Wignaraja, Director of DOCO, presented the updated UNDG work plan for 2013-2014, noting that it was the first fully integrated UNDG work plan, which also linked up to the QCPR monitoring and implementation framework. She noted that each UNDG working mechanism and Regional UNDG Team had reviewed progress made in 2013 and updated the work plan accordingly. She highlighted that while a full results chain had been introduced, the UNDG had yet to take several important steps to become truly strategic and results focused: Too much of the reporting still related to the activity level with insufficient linkages to outputs and the outcomes of the UNDG Strategic Priorities. Indicators, baselines, and means of verification were often missing.

37. **The UNDG endorsed the UNDG Work Plan for 2013-2014. It was clarified that the final version would not contain ‘traffic lights.’ UNDG working mechanisms were requested to submit any missing information by Friday 14 February. DOCO would revert to the UNDG with some proposed indicators that would help the UNDG report against key QCPR commitments from agencies.**

#### **b. Delivering as One Standard Operating Procedures Plan of Action for Headquarters**

38. The ASG Advisory Group Chair, Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen, noted that the Plan of Action for Headquarters responded to the outcome of the Independent Evaluation of Delivering as One, which had called for increased attention to removing remaining bottlenecks at UN headquarters that impeded effective implementation of Delivering as One at the country level. She noted that the Plan of Action for Headquarters had been developed in a consultative process amongst UNDG and HLCM members who had reached agreement on 55 critical actions, which needed to be taken at UN headquarters to ensure that the SOPs had demonstrable impact on efficiency, coherence and development effectiveness at the country level.

39. The ASG Advisory Group Chair noted that many of the agreed actions were already under implementation and that the vast majority of actions were due to be implemented in the course of 2014, which left the UNDG with less than 11 months to address some critical issues. She noted that the Action Plan for Headquarters had already received a lot of attention from Member States and that its timely adoption would allow the UNDG to report back to Member States at the forthcoming ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment.

40. **The UNDG endorsed the Delivering as One Standard Operating Procedures Plan of Action for Headquarters.**

#### **c. Revised RC job description and Guidance on UNCT Conduct and Working Relations**

21. Craig Mokhiber, Co-convenor of the UNDG Working Group on RC System Issues, highlighted that the revised RC job description and the Guidance on UNCT Conduct on Working Relations were two key deliverables in support of the UNDG Strategic Priorities 2013-2016, which also responded directly to mandates in the QCPR. Both would be critical for ensuring implementation of the UNDG Management and Accountability System at the country level and strengthening accountability between RCs and UN Country Teams.



22. Mr. Mokhiber explained that the RC job description had also been updated to reflect new mandates and functions arising from Rights Up Front and the Policy Committee decision on the rule of law. Corresponding language had been taken directly from these mandates and inserted into the RC job description. Mr. Mokhiber noted that Regional UNDG Teams and colleagues from the field had been consulted during the drafting process. He emphasized that the guidance allowed for flexibility for country- and UNCT-specific adjustments. Ultimately, success depended on effective leadership on the ground but also on high-level support from UNDG member entities.

**23. The UNDG endorsed the RC job description and Guidance on UNCT Conduct and Working Relations.**

#### **d. Revised Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) Framework**

41. Robert Jenkins, Co-convener of the UNDG HACT Advisory Committee, noted that the HACT Framework had been comprehensively revised based on the outcome of a formal assessment of HACT. The revision reconfirmed that HACT was applicable in all countries and all contexts. It emphasized the way UN agencies worked with their implementing partners and shared information about associated risks. Mr. Jenkins explained that following UNDG endorsement of the Framework, each agency would be expected to incorporate the relevant revisions into its own policies. Importantly, the revisions also clarified accountabilities by outlining what agency representatives were responsible for and what country, regional and global levels were responsible for. For now, the revised HACT Framework would be adopted by UNDP, UNICEF, and UNFPA. All other UNDG member entities were encouraged to take it into consideration as well.

**42. The UNDG endorsed the Revised Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) Framework.**

### **AOB**

#### **Rights Up Front**

43. The UNDG Chair informed the UNDG that the Secretary-General had written to all UN staff on 21 November 2013 to renew the UN's commitment to the responsibilities assigned to it under the Charter in view of serious violations of human rights or humanitarian law. She noted that Rights up Front was about ensuring the UN leveraged the full breadth of its mandates to help protect people at risk of or subject to serious violations of international human rights or humanitarian law. The first consultation had been conducted on the Central African Republic, which had led to a strong report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council recommending a UN peacekeeping mission.

**44. The UNDG Chair indicated that a joint letter signed by the Deputy Secretary-General and herself would shortly be sent to all Resident Co-ordinators to ensure UN Country Teams were fully aware of the responsibilities and envisaged support structures to move the initiative forward at the country level. The Chairs of the Regional UNDG Teams would be briefed accordingly as well.**

### **UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction**

45. The UNDG Chair recalled that the UNDG had been tasked to support Resident Co-ordinators and UNCTs in the implementation of the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience at the country level. The UNDG Chair noted that it had been agreed to anchor the implementation of the Plan of Action in the Resident/Humanitarian Co-ordinator office and that she had sent a communication to this effect to all RCs.

46. **The UNDG Chair emphasized that Regional UNDG Teams would need to play a key role in supporting effective implementation at the country level. DOCO together with the UNDG focal points would coordinate briefings for the Chairs of the Regional UNDG Teams on the policy and programmatic directions, and the technical support available to country and regional levels that draw on the capacities and expertise of UNDG member entities.**