



United Nations
Office at Geneva
(UNOG)



Geneva Centre for the Democratic
Control of Armed Forces
(DCAF)

UNOG-DCAF Special Discussion

Security for Sustainable Development

Safety, justice and good governance across the
Sustainable Development Goals

Palais des Nations, Room VII
Monday, 7 December 2015

- 16:00** Welcome coffee
- 16:15** Introduction
Michael Møller, Director-General, UNOG
Theodor H. Winkler, Ambassador, Director, DCAF
- Keynote speaker**
Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction
- 17:00** Moderated panel discussion: Promises and pitfalls of a new approach
Moderator: Fairlie Chappuis, DCAF
Michael Gerber, Ambassador and Swiss Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development
Anna Alvazzi del Frate, Research Director, Small Arms Survey
Oliver Jütersonke, Head of Research, Centre on Conflict, Development & Peacebuilding, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
- 17:45** Questions and answers from the audience
- 18:00** Closing remarks
- 18:30** Reception

In September 2015 the United Nations Summit adopted the Post-2015 Development Agenda established the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as an ambitious new basis for the global development agenda. Building on the foundation established by the Millennium Development Goals, the SDGs go further than ever before in their interconnected vision of development and their universal ambition. The SDGs also go further in directly addressing the role of security in promoting sustainable development by making safety, justice and good governance a strong feature of the new agenda.

Issues of safety, justice and good governance are addressed directly by Goal 16 which calls to “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”. But safety, justice and good governance are also a transversal theme in the SDGs cutting across all 17 Goals as an integral requirement for meeting many of their targets.

As work continues to develop the specific indicators that will measure progress in the SDGs, this Special Discussion asks whether current approaches to promoting safety, justice and good governance are up to the task of implementing the SDGs.

Among the issues to be explored are:

- A number of the SDGs emphasize the nexus between good governance, the rule of law and people-centred security: how will implementing Goal 16 intersect with the other SDGs?
- The SDGs present a vision of sustainable development rooted in shared prosperity, equality and inclusiveness: how will progress across other aspects of the SDG agenda impact the implementation of Goal 16?
- Goal 16 addresses head-on the interdependence between security and sustainable development, at the risk of distracting from other aspects of the sustainable development agenda: How can the risks of “securitization” be mitigated?
- Implementing the SDGs will require a transformation in the way many states provide security, safety, and justice for their populations, yet in many states the security sector has proven particularly resilient to this kind of profound change: Are current approaches to good governance of the security sector up to the task of implementing the SDGs?

The twelfth in a series of joint annual events, the Special Discussion follows previous debates hosted by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) on different aspects of security and good governance. These meetings have served to raise awareness of the complexities and challenges before the international community in this area and have produced practical proposals to inform and guide future efforts.

The Sustainable Development Goals

- Goal 1.** End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Goal 2.** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- Goal 3.** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 4.** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Goal 5.** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 6.** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7.** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- Goal 8.** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9.** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- Goal 10.** Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Goal 11.** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12.** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 13.** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*
- Goal 14.** Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- Goal 15.** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- Goal 16.** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- Goal 17.** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development