

MGFC and RF and UNEP meeting

Summary

4th December 2023

Time: **0930hrs EAT**

Agenda Points:

- **Report of 10th ASC, 10th ASC morning meetings, MGS meeting with MSINC 2 (funding of 20 observers and results of side events will be announced next week by INC Secretariat; update please check INC website**
- **Attendance of facilitators in MGFC calls, ASC, etc.**
- **International Consultation of MGS**
- **Capacity Building for MGS**
- **MGS Resolution Coordination**
- **Updates on INC3**
- **OEWG 2**
- **Updates on proposed Major groups Guidelines**
- **COP 28 Major Groups side event**

Participants

- **UNEP: Aurora Cheung, David Ombisi, Maria, Peter Kirongothi, Edwike Nyauncho, Katharina Kalbitz, Thomas Nyambosero**
- **Business and Industry: Nill**
- **Children and Youth: Gyubin Hwang, Zuhair Ahmed Kowshik**
- **Farmers: A.G. Kawamura**
- **Indigenous Peoples and their Communities: Nill**
- **Local Authorities: Magash Naidoo**
- **NGO: Christopher CHIN, Djatougbe AZIAKA**
- **Scientific and Technological Community: Mohammed Abdelraouf**
- **Women: Frezer Yeheyis, Dalia Márquez**
- **Workers and Trade Unions: Nill**
- **Africa: David Munene, Ayman Bel Hassan Cherkaoui**
- **Asia and the Pacific: Ajay Jha**
- **Europe: Natasha Dokovska, Patrizia Heidegger**
- **North America: Nill**
- **Latin America and the Caribbean: Yarivith Gonzales**
- **West Asia: Nill**

Summary of Minutes

1. Report of 10th ASC, 10th ASC morning meetings, MGS meeting with MS

Dalia:

- Congratulations to MGFC members for their active participation throughout the 10th ASC meeting, including daily MGS coordination meetings, contributions to joint intervention, etc.
- Daily opportunity to take the floor and provide inputs on different agenda items
- Final 'Summary of the Chair' incorporated contributions from MGS
- Some MGs didn't have any representation, nor did they present any statement.
- It is good to have each MG represented; at least one of the co-facilitators from each major group should attend
- CSU made a huge effort to bring us there
- Remind that we don't engage as individuals rather, we should engage on behalf of our respective MGs

David Ombisi:

- Responded to the comment on MG participation: Major Groups need to accept every opp that comes their way
- If you can't join for any reason, please stay updated with co-chairs to move forward
- CSU will provide the necessary support to make sure that MGs are represented in these meetings

Aurora:

- Successful meeting on Monday of 10th ASC Meeting between MGS and Member States
- Requested Maria to share more details

Maria:

- Thanked all who joined the meeting between MGs and Member States
- Portugal approached one week ago at the 10th ASC meeting and facilitated this informal conversation
- 15 member states were present at the meeting with MGs in addition to the EU
- This meeting shed light on how MGs could be more involved in UNEP works and proposes
- Another meeting between Major Groups and Member States to take place during GMGSF preceding UNEA6
- This meeting created momentum; a lot of member states are eager to have civil society voice better represented

Dalia:

- We had coordination meetings daily during the ASC
- We agreed with DPR Portugal to repeat this practice of having informal meetings between MGs and member states following the Same format
- Member states are more likely to be available during the days of GMGSF to have a meeting
- After the UNEA6, there is a possibility to create a strategy of having two MS delegates as contact points for MGS
- Working on the report on ASC meeting, to be shared next week

2. Attendance of facilitators in MGFC calls, ASC, etc.

Edwike:

- Shared the attendance list of MGFC members
- Total 9 calls in 2023 and less than 50 percent participation in every meeting on average
- During the morning briefings/coordination meetings, there was no participation from numerous

- major groups and couple of regional facilitators
- Urged for improving attendance
- Urged to communicate if any mistakes are found in facilitation

David Ombisi:

- Requested reactions from MGFC members on the attendance record
- Requested to address challenges and for suggestions to improve
- Requested for suggestions on how CSU could help more

Duncan:

- We need to improve participation
- Can we schedule a pre-determined meeting, like every first Monday?
- Meeting on short notice is a challenge
- We proposed if a co-facilitator attends from one MG, that might be enough to make sure that particular MG participated

Dalia:

- Confirmed first Monday of each month for the monthly meeting

Magash:

- John Baptist was supposed to attend on behalf of Local Authority MG, unfortunately, he caught COVID
- participation by Major Groups in these processes is a Right. However, our individual participation and representation of MGs is a privilege. As such, on the earlier discussion of non-participation, etc (that is naturally not inclusive of unforeseen situations, such as getting COVID, etc.), there should be consequence management from CSU towards individuals.
- Apologised and left for another pre-scheduled call

3. International Consultation of MGS

Dalia:

- Patricia was unable to join the MGFC call to brief about it
- Gathered a lot of input from different MGS and were considered for the MGS Joint Statement on the final day of the 10th ASC Meeting
- Next MGS Consultation: Dec 18-19 (2-5 PM Nairobi Time)
- Save time and try to attend
- Ensure the participation of at least one co-facilitator from Each MG

Natasha:

- Last week, we had Europe RCM (27-29 Nov) with 40 in-person participants from 35 countries and 40 online participants

4. Capacity Building for MGS

Dalia

- We requested Capacity Building in the lead-up to UNEA6; CSU to organize
- Also, a CB session for all accredited organizations

Maria:

- We received requests for capacity-building sessions after the 10th ASC Meeting
- Shared the draft agenda for the CB session on 20 Dec (TBC)
- Prepared a draft agenda, which will be circulating soon
- Raise your voice now or send an email on this after the meeting with inputs

Ajay:

- Remembered this agenda was discussed
- Asked how it was developed

Maria:

- Expecting to get feedback now and developed this agenda on the basis of a concept note shared by Dalia capturing wishes and demands by MGs
- Total Two Capacity Building Sessions: One for MGFC and another one for all accredited organizations

AG Kawamura:

- With COP28 ongoing, there is great interest to be able to participate and discuss the challenges of agri community
- We are new to UNEA process, but engaged in other UN processes
- Trying to get familiar with new assignment
- Any assistance from CSU is appreciated
- Thanked Dalia and Mohamed for their leadership

David Ombisi:

- Proposed time for the CB session for MGFC 1h 55 mins: worried whether it is possible to cover all the items within this time
- May get extended upto 3 hrs and better to break into two online meetings to comfortably cover all these items

Dalia: Supported David's proposal

Zuhair:

- Better to record the session and make that available for people to watch online and understand the engagement through MGS mechanisms
- Difficult to join two meetings considering the workload in the lead up to OECPR6 & UNEA6

Dalia:

- Supported the idea of recording CB sessions
- Daily Coordination Meeting during ASC, we received request and demand for capacity building for facilitators and accredited organizations
- Made this proposal on the basis of requests received and shared with CSU
- Finally, we agreed to coordinate to have your inputs and finalize the session's proposal and agenda
- We can make this open for 24-48 hrs for inputs

5. MGS Resolution Coordination

Maria:

- Thanks to Zuhair for sharing the resolutions coordination template

- MGS-MS meeting: to have coordination on Resolutions
- Created Google sheet for nomination of contact points for each resolution from Major Groups

Zuhair:

- INC is a lesson for us to be proactive and urge member states for respecting MGS mechanism for the implementation of the resolutions

AG Kawamura:

- Right time for us to engage
- Trying to understand the format for engagement in the lead up to UNEA6

Maria:

- You can come with a concrete proposal from your major group with what you want to see in resolutions
- MGs can nominate Contact Points for resolutions
- Contact information of these contact points will be shared with member states and they may ask for inputs from MGS through them

Zuhair:

- It is beneficial for us to share positions with member states beforehand so that they can reflect those in their policy positions before coming for OECPR negotiations.

6. Updates on INC3

Dalia:

- Preparatory meeting took place on 11th November to discuss synthesis report focusing on Scope and Intersessional Works
- There were numerous side events throughout the week, opening plenary took place on 13th November
- Some observers got the floor, MGS are not recognized
- Received the request to remove the name of the MG from the statement; renamed as 'Working Group'
- For Contact Group 1, it was easier to get a floor to speak
- Contact Group 3 didn't reach to any final agreement/consensus

Christopher:

- MGS are not formally recognized, no MG flag/sign there
- Misunderstanding of the new staffs of the INC secretariat as they misinterpreted that MGs can't be represented
- No specific floor/flag but u can represent your MG
- Priority will not be given to MGs
- You can identify as MG and speak on behalf of it
- No additional privileges

Zuhair:

- Only mandate received is for Revised Zero Draft Text on the basis of discussions and written proposal by member states
- No intersessional work as member states couldn't reach to an agreement on this

7. OEWG 2

Aurora: Laetitia is not in the call for another meeting and requested Maria to brief on OEWG2

Maria:

- Civil Society Day on 10th December and Youth Preparation Day on 9th December
- Mohamed is leading MGS Consultations for OEWG2; draft agenda will be shared soon
- Q&A session for Civil Society with the Chair of OEWG 2 to take place on the 7th December

Zuhair:

- Children and Youth Major Group (CYMG) is organizing 'Youth Consultative Meeting' on the 9th December from 12:00 - 17:30, everybody is invited to take part/observe
- YCM will be hybrid
- Details could be found here: www.youthenvironment.org/youth-oweg-spp

Dalia:

- Asked about logistical arrangements, especially some participants are yet to receive Flights/Tickets
- Natasha also didn't receive her ticket

Aurora:

- Write to me and Laetitia for any issue with ticket issuance

8. Updates on proposed Major groups Guidelines

Dalia

- No inputs so far from MGFC members
- Keep it open for another one week for receiving inputs
- Goal: strengthening the representation of MGS, and guidelines for meetings

9. COP 28 Major Groups side event

Dalia:

- Request COP28 MGs participants to take the floor and elaborate on this agenda item
- Date and timing of this side event at UNEP Pavilion: Dec 6, 5:45 - 6:45 PM (Hybrid)
- UNEP ED to attend
- No additional Comment

David Ombisi:

- Ayman / David should be involved and circulate more info through email on that

David Muene:

- David and Ayman don't have any info on this side event
- Mohammad is one who posted it in the group