Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Peep Mardiste
NPD regional coordinator
UNECE
Background

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), 2000-2015

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability (incl. Target 7C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation)
8. Develop a global partnership for development
Consultations on post-2015 development agenda

- 2010: MDG Summit initiated consultations
- 2012: Rio+20 called for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be developed
- 2012-2013: open and inclusive consultations:
  - 11 global thematic consultations (incl. water)
  - national consultations in about 100 countries
Global thematic consultations 2012-2013:

• Conflict and Fragility
• Education
• Energy
• Environmental Sustainability
• Food Security and Nutrition
• Governance
• Growth and Employment
• Health
• Inequalities
• Population Dynamics
• Water
Thematic consultations on water

- in period of November 2012 - March 2013
- sub-consultations in three areas:
  - Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
  - Water Resource Management
  - Wastewater Management & Water Quality
- online consultations (www.worldwewant2015.org/water, Facebook, Twitter)
- national consultations (incl. in Georgia and Tajikistan, financed by the Netherlands and facilitated by UNECE)
- working meeting in Geneva (27-28 February 2013)
- high-level meeting in Hague (21-22 March 2013)
- "Water must feature prominently in the new development framework. It must be a standalone goal with clear targets and measurable indicators."
Timeframe

- January 2013: UN General Assembly decided to establish the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals
- 30 UN member states represented in the Open Working Group
- until February 2014: Open Working Group (OWG) monthly meetings in New York (draft documents available to all countries for input)
- September 2014: discussion and recommendations at UN General Assembly
Discussions at UN Open Working Group, 1

Water was discussed at 3rd meeting (22-24 May 2013)

• overwhelming agreement on the crucial importance of water for sustainable development
• almost all stressed the importance of water for achieving other development goals (e.g. health, food and nutrition, poverty eradication, education, etc.)
• several delegations stressed importance of the water-food-energy nexus (question: how to translate it into the SDG goal system?)
• SDGs should build on the MDGs experience and complete the unfinished business (target on sanitation)
Discussions at UN Open Working Group, 2

• several delegations expressed preference for self-standing water SDG but no agreement
• “water” misses a clear, politically powerful goal, although shared views on areas of possible targets:
  - access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
  - Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)
  - wastewater treatment
  - climate / extreme weather events / disaster risk reduction
• heated discussions about “water security”
• Several delegations expressed preference for self-standing goal on water
High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, 1

- 27 members, established in June 2012
- May 2013: report with agenda and roadmap
  - proposed a set of 12 SDGs and 54 targets as basis for discussion (following “sectoral” approach)
  - proposed goals to be universal while targets at national level
  - Proposed standalone water goal “achieve universal access to water and sanitation”
  - Proposed 4 indicators (IWRM or governance not mentioned)
High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, 2

• 4 indicators proposed:
  - provide universal access to safe drinking water at home, and in schools, health centres, and refugee camps
  - end open defecation and ensure universal access to sanitation at school and work, and increase access to sanitation at home by x%
  - bring freshwater withdrawals in line with supply and increase water efficiency in agriculture by x%, industry by y% and urban areas by z%
  - recycle or treat all municipal and industrial wastewater prior to discharge

www.post2015hlp.org
Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Peep Mardiste
NPD regional coordinator
UNECE