

Summaries of the Stakeholder Consultations for the Intergovernmental Process for the Declaration on Future Generations

Consultation: Youth & Indigenous Groups

15 January 2024

Number of attendees: [160]

Speakers [53]

Summary: The Consultation with Youth and Indigenous Groups called for linking education and future generations, intergenerational equity, and accountability mechanisms. The speakers also emphasized the recognition of children's rights, the importance of letting them actively contribute to society and to establish distinct policies addressing their unique needs. They stressed the significance of intergenerational justice, accountability, and the active engagement of youth in addressing corruption. The consultation acknowledged the importance of youth participation and recommended measures for evaluating policy effectiveness and amplifying youth impact.

Recurring Headlines of Interventions

- Large endorsement of the appointment of the Future Generations Special Envoy
- Call for an annual future generations report to guide and inform policies, with metrics on future generations
- Call for the recognition of the rights of Future Generations
- Emphasis on Intergenerational Equity as a commitment to Human Rights Principles
- Calls for prioritizing meaningful youth participation in the process
- Advocacy for embedding the Future Generations Agenda to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Calls for more Strategic Foresight and Anticipatory Governance within UN processes
- Underscoring the importance of the right to inherit a healthy environment and reaffirming the commitment to prioritize and protect this fundamental right. Importance of addressing climate change and urgent environmental concerns
- Importance of investment in quality education and skills development, that were absent in the former discussions
- Calls for Collaboration with Private Sector, Civil Society, and Academia
- Calls for establishment of Country-level Platforms for Future Voices
- Advocating for the recognition of specific rights for both future generations and indigenous peoples.

Calls for Specific Language

- Accountability & transparency
- Meaningful youth engagement: Urging leaders to address systemic issues in youth participation, focusing not only on treating young people as beneficiaries but also recognizing them as active providers and contributors.
- Need for anticipatory governance

- Inclusion of Intergenerational Equity and Human Rights framework in the Declaration
- Recognition of Indigenous Voices and Knowledge
- Call for a specific language on Climate Justice and Biodiversity
- Indigenous major groups requested specific mention, highlighting their unique relationship with the environment and emphasizing the need to acknowledge biodiversity.

Notices of Upcoming Activities

- Development of a Toolkit for Youth Engagement

Any Other Key Thoughts or Notes

- Great diversity of youth participants, who all highlighted and expressed their gratitude to co-facilitators for making this process inclusive and participative.
- Unanimous welcoming of the DFG
- Recognition of challenges in achieving SDGs and calls for equity in the process
- Consideration of the Well-being and Rights of Non-Human Generations

Consultation: United Nations Agencies, Funds & Programs

15 January 2024

Number of attendees: [104]

Number of speakers: [11]

Summary: The Consultation covered a broad range of topics, including the importance of youth engagement, human rights, ethics, and recognizing global threats. Participants called for practical steps to ensure gender equality, recognition of the rights of future generations and insisted on the need to include scientific insights in policy making, amidst broader advocacy for multilateralism reform.

Recurring Headlines of Interventions

- Stressing that the declaration should be firmly anchored in human rights, with a commitment to focus on future generations and the ethics of the future, avoiding the imposition of future conditions on the next generations.
- Emphasizing the recognition of children's rights and asserting that the future must be guided by the fulfillment of these rights.
- Recognizing that global threats will play a crucial role in shaping the rights of future generation
- Emphasizing the need to equip young people to lead, advocating for a systematic approach to support their work, including action-based solutions within the Summit of the Future process and a clear direction on how to support young people, accompanied by a change in mindset.

Calls for Specific Language

- Recalling the language of the Common Principles on Future Generations, developed by the High-Level Committee on Programmes and approved by the UN Chief Executives Board for coordination in May 2023.
- Intergenerational Equity: Aligning with a human rights framework. SDGs, Equity, and Justice; Stating that sustainable development efforts aim to accelerate progress towards future generations
- Placing equity, inclusion, and justice as core principles.

Notices of Upcoming Activities

- HLCP Mentioning the development of an ethical Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document on issues related to future generations, intended to assist Member States in clarifying definitions and navigating ethical considerations.

Any Other Key Thoughts or Notes

- Overall consensus on the DFG and its goal, referring to other UN processes feeding this conversation
- Emphasis on children being a particular group with specific rights that need to be differentiated from future generations

Consultation: Civil Society Organizations & Research Institutions/Academia

16 January 2024.

Number of attendees: [162]

Number of speakers: [51]

Summary: During the Civil Society Organizations & Research Institutions/Academia Consultation on January 16, 2024, discussions emphasized advocating for a better utilization of foresight and science in longer-range planning, promoting the positive tension between long-term goals and present actions, and addressing challenges affecting the future. The calls included incorporating the Seventh Generation principle, appointing a UN Future Generations Envoy, and establishing accountability measures for the Declaration on Future Generations. The session stressed the need for a shared understanding across society regarding the protection and investment in the future and included the connections between young and future generations.

Recurring Headlines of Interventions

- Advocate for better utilization of foresight and science for longer-range planning.
- Reframe perspectives for enduring transformation by balancing long-term and present considerations.
- Highlight the positive tension between long-term goals and current actions.
- Promote solidarity across present and future generations.
- Stress coherence between the Summit of the Future, the Declaration on Future Generations, and the Pact for the Future.
- Highlight the importance of protecting and investing in the future of the environment, education, infrastructure, space, and peace,
- Address challenges that will affect the world in the future, such as corruption, climate change, mental illness, zoonotic diseases, and artificial intelligence.
- Ensure that the whole society advocates for future generations, not only young people.

Calls for Specific Language

- Call for including the Seventh Generation principle
- Call for an appointment of a UN Future Generations Envoy
- Call for delimiting and democratizing the terms of future generations, young people, and children as three different ones.
- Call for including accountability measures for the implementation of this Declaration
- Call for a second Summit dedicated to the future and a regular forum to review commitments on future generations.
- Call for flexibility in “creating the future and keeping it open to be designed by future generations”

Notices of Upcoming Activities

- The Space Generation Advisory Council will host an event on Space, youth, and future generations on February the 7th in NYC.

Consultation: Private Sector

16 January 2024

Number of attendees: [68]

Number of speakers: [9]

Summary: The Private Sector Consultation on January 16, 2024, emphasized the interconnected challenges of climate degradation, technology misuse, and infectious diseases. Discussions underscored the need to identify risk drivers rooted in industrial behaviors. Participants expressed hope for a shared expectation among civil society organizations, political leaders, and the private sector, emphasizing the importance of alliances, data-driven decision-making, and the allocation of resources for research initiatives contributing to systemic change. The session also highlighted the establishment of the Council 100 by the International Chamber of Commerce to showcase real economy companies adhering to sustainable principles. The overarching call was to stress the vital role of finance and the private sector in general in supporting global development efforts.

Recurring Headlines of Interventions

- Recognize the interconnected challenges of climate degradation, misuse of technology, and the threat of infectious diseases.
- Identify risk drivers reflecting industrial behaviors that contribute to these challenges.
- Acknowledge the pressures on long-termism.
- Stress that companies adopting a long-term approach are more likely to protect future generations and to be economically successful, emphasize the use of long-term policymaking as economic driver.
- Express hope for a shared expectation among civil society organizations (CSOs), political leaders, and the private sector.
- Encourage alliances with business actors to create a common understanding and approach.
- Highlight the importance of collecting and utilizing data sets to drive informed decision-making.
- Emphasize the need for resources to support research initiatives that contribute to systemic change.

Calls for Specific Language

- Stress the importance of finance for development

Notices of Upcoming Activities

- The International Chamber of Commerce is working on the Council 100, to incite real economy companies and representatives across regions to adhere to future generations principles [pending].