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**UNDG-HRM MDTF  
FINAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE REPORT  
REPORTING PERIOD: JULY 2016 TO DECEMBER 2016**

<p align="center"><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme Title: Human Rights Frontiers 2030: Uniting the UN to implement a 2030 Agenda that leaves no one behind</li> <li>• Programme Number (if applicable)</li> <li>• MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 00101215</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results<sup>2</sup></b></p> <p>(if applicable) Country/Region New York, Global HQ</p> <p>Priority area/ strategic results Pillar 1 of 2015-2016 Work Plan</p>
<p align="center"><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme UNDP</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Implementing Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National counterparts (government, private, NGOs &amp; others) and other International Organizations: N/A</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: MPTF /JP Contribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• by Agency (if applicable): UNDP 179,760</li> </ul> <p>Agency Contribution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• by Agency (if applicable)</li> </ul> <p>Government Contribution (if applicable)</p> <p>Other Contributions (donors) (if applicable)</p> <p><b>TOTAL: 179,760</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration (months) 6 months Start Date<sup>3</sup> (dd.mm.yyyy) 12/08/16</p> <p>Original End Date<sup>4</sup> (dd.mm.yyyy) 31/12/16 Actual End date<sup>5</sup> (dd.mm.yyyy) 31/12/16</p> <p>Have agency(ies) operationally closed the Programme in its(their) system? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Expected Financial Closure date<sup>6</sup>: 31/12/16</p>
<p align="center"><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b></p> <p>Evaluation Completed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: dd.mm.yyyy</p> <p>Evaluation Report - Attached</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: dd.mm.yyyy</p>	<p align="center"><b>Report Submitted By</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Name: Karin Lucke</li> <li>○ Title: Policy Adviser, Human Rights</li> <li>○ Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP</li> <li>○ Email address: karin.lucke@undg.org</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> The term "programme" is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.  
<sup>2</sup> Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;  
<sup>3</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY  
<sup>4</sup> As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.  
<sup>5</sup> If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the original end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date which is when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved MPTF / JP have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see MPTF Office Closure Guidelines.  
<sup>6</sup> Financial Closure requires the return of unspent balances and submission of the Certified Final Financial Statement and Report.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UNDG Human Rights Working Group's **Human Rights Frontiers 2030 Forum** took place in New York on 14-15 July 2016. The aim of the Forum was to develop a vision and accompanying strategy to unite the UN for a human rights based implementation of the 2030 Agenda that truly leaves no one behind. Bringing together UN field leaders and representatives from across the UNDG, the Forum provided the space to engage in innovative 'thought leadership' on key frontiers for human rights; reflect on what was needed to strengthen principled and transformative leadership to deliver on an integrated agenda with human rights at its core; and how to operationalize the rights based vision of the 2030 Agenda into effective practice.

The Forum was the third and last step in a broader process to provide operational support on human rights in implementing the SDGs. The first step towards these efforts was the UNDG-HRWG's expert group meeting on 14-15 October 2015, where a set of policy and operational messages to support UN Country Teams in integrating human rights into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda were developed. The messages are envisaged to ensure that human rights are concretely integrated into planning, programming and policy guidance for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are coherently communicated across UN programmes, agencies and funds. The second was a series of "Frontier Dialogues" on key issues that have strategic implications for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda that began in May 2016.

The Forum was made up of 12 current and former RCs, 4 representatives of UNCT Human Rights Thematic Groups, 2 Human Rights Advisers and HQ representatives from 13 UN organizations from the UNDG-HRWG's Membership.

Over the course of the two day discussions centered on frontier issues, leadership, and field experiences, a consensus emerged on the core elements of a strategy that could help the UN make the required cultural shift for a people centred developed agenda.

The discussions affirmed that together we - the UNDG - have a specific responsibility to place the person and human dignity at the center of our efforts if we are to live up to the promise of "leaving no-one behind." However, for this to materialize, a cultural shift is required:

1. **Visionary Thought Leadership:** We need a bold and more integrated vision, with human dignity at the core and human rights positioned as assets to facilitate strategic solutions, within which to frame the UNDG's part in "leaving no one behind." We need common messaging and a coherent voice - across the UN pillars - to bring alive that vision, including in the context of critical challenges facing the international community.
2. **Principled Leadership:** Our vision, and the content of our common messages, must be matched with principled and active leadership for human rights. Incentive structures, support mechanisms and political backing at the highest level must align to provide RCs, UNCTs and HQ colleagues what they need to engage effectively (and when needed, courageously) on human rights concerns, to promote and guide the required institutional change and to facilitate the needed capacity, including financial and substantive support, more commensurate with expectations.
3. **Communities of Effort:** We need to foster active, engaged and influential "communities of practice" within the UNDG. We re-labeled these as "communities of effort" and believe that to better facilitate and concentrate the UNDG's and UNCTs' delivery of this agenda, communities should be formed to help document and disseminate innovative and proven good practices to strengthen the evidence base and capture lessons and insights to feed into "thought leadership." The overall framework for these efforts to advance the integration of human rights into SDGs' implementation should emphasize a) alignment of

effort with international human right standards; b) “leaving no-one behind”; c) meaningful participation; and d) robust accountability including specifically to affected communities.

Combined, these three elements provide the vision and direction for the work of the UNDG-HRWG in supporting a human rights based implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

## I. Purpose

The **Human Rights Frontiers Forum** was designed to foster a common vision, and accompanying strategy that can unite the UN for human rights based implementation of the 2030 Agenda that truly leaves no one behind.

The meeting was the third step in a broader effort to provide operational support for human rights based implementation of the SDGs. It brought together field leaders, representatives of UNCT Human Rights Thematic Groups, Human Rights Advisers and representatives across the UNDG-HRWG Membership.

## II. Assessment of Project Results

### Objectives:

The Project had the two following stated objectives:

- i) A strategy for the UNDG HRWG in supporting the UN system implement a human rights based 2030 Agenda.
- ii) Agreement on key messages and actions required across the UN in taking a human rights based 2030 agenda forward.

The Forum was held over two days in New York, Battery Park, with a preceding half day for a small group of 13 actual and ex Resident Coordinators focusing on strategies, tactics and support required for strengthening principled and transformative leadership in the field.

The Dialogues and Forum provided a strong affirmation of the centrality of human rights and their importance in bringing the UN together in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

The common vision that emerged combines three interdependent and mutually reinforcing areas of change: “Thought Leadership”, “Principled Leadership” and “Communities of Effort.” Combined, these provide the basis for a strategy to successfully place the person and human dignity at the center of our combined efforts and bring about the cultural shift required to ensure that we live up to the promise of “leaving no-one behind.”

The three areas will provide the overall framework for moving forward the strategy of the HRWG with the following components:

- **Visionary Thought Leadership:** The Dialogues’ lead agencies were requested to take charge of follow up to the recommendations that emerged for their respective dialogues. The importance of continuing the civil society dialogue in particular was noted, given the clear demand for more guidance on this issue and awareness raising as part of taking forward the SDG agenda. The HRWG should also continue to generate thinking on new “frontier” issues, through additional dialogues.
- **Principled Leadership:** The HRWG should prioritize the development of its leadership development strategy. In parallel, and as an immediate step, the HRWG will focus on some of the clear requests for support articulated by RCs, including HRAs, specific guidance and support for ensuring quality

support for analysis, and providing fora - possibly at regional level - for further peer-exchange between RCs.

- **Communities of Effort:** The HRWG's Policy and Operational messages provide an actionable and robust framework to support UNCTs in their efforts to integrate human rights into SDG implementation, and to guide UN field colleagues on the steps required to translate the rights based vision of the 2030 Agenda into practice. However, there is a need to further capture and share good practices and emerging experiences of UNCTs, taking forward innovative practices on integrating human rights into SDG implementation. Fostering an active community of practice among these UNCTs will be a valuable area of support for UNCTs and to strengthen the evidence base for the HRWG.

What emerged from the discussions at the Forum was consensus on the core elements of a strategy that could help the UN make the required cultural shift for a people centred developed agenda, consisting of three elements: principled leadership, thought leadership, and communities of effort.

- **Thought leadership:** The leads of the dialogues were requested to lead follow up on the recommendations that emerged for their respective dialogues, in particular in articulating clear policy messages that outline the red and blue lines for the UN in engaging on these issues; and where relevant, to continue with the dialogue series, for instance to take forward those that did not yet take place: business and human rights, and environment and human rights. The importance of continuing the civil society dialogue was also noted, given the need for more awareness and guidance on this issue as part of taking forward the SDG agenda. The HRWG can also continue to generate thinking on new "frontier" issues, through additional dialogues.
- **Principled Leadership:** To take this forward, the HRWG needs to further develop its leadership development strategy, key elements of which were identified at the forum, consisting of: inspired leadership; clear messaging and incentive structure combined with political support at the highest levels; and institutional change and preparedness for principled leadership. As part of these efforts, dialogue across the pillars and within the different UNDG WGs is needed.
- **Communities of Effort:** The HRWG's Policy and Operational messages provide an actionable and robust framework to support UNCTs in their efforts to integrate human rights into SDG implementation. The messages need to be further refined, based on the feedback from the forum, and disseminated to the field. In addition, capturing and sharing good practices and emerging experiences of UNCTs taking forward frontier initiatives, and fostering an active community of practice among these UNCTs, will be a valuable support tool for UNCTs and evidence base for the HRWG.

The three core elements identified above provide the vision and direction for the work of the UNDG-HRWG; in particularly for strengthening human rights leadership at the field level and for supporting field colleagues translate the rights based vision of the 2030 Agenda into practice.

This three pronged strategy will inform and guide the work of the UNDG-HRWG over the next few months. Progress is already underway with a draft human rights leadership strategy; continuation on the dialogues, with a Frontier Dialogue on Environment and Human Rights taking place on 22 September 2016; and efforts to further capture and document field practices in integrating human rights into SDG implementation.