

**Meeting with CSOs on SDGs**

**3 July 2015, 10.00 hrs.**

**UNDP Premises**

**Speakers**

1. Mr. Dragan Zupanjevac, Coordinator for ECOSOC and Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, Department for the United Nations

2. Ms. Irena Vojackova Sollorano, UN Resident Coordinator in Serbia

Moderator: Borka Jeremic, UN Coordination Officer

**List of participants – CSOs**

1. Ms. Aleksandra Mladenovic, Executive Director, Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development
2. Aleksandra Sremcev, Serbian Association for Sexual and Reproductive Health - SRH
3. Mr. Nikola Trazivuk, CEDEF
4. Ms. Branislava Piper, Expert, FAMILIJA
5. Ms. Branka Andjelkovic, Public Policy Research Center
6. **Mr. Djurica Stankov,** Executive Director and Legal Representative, AS Center
7. Ms. Jadranka Jelincic, executive Director, Fund for an Open Society–Serbia
8. Mr. Karlo Puskarica, Roma House for All
9. Ms. Ksenija Rakic, SECONS - Development Initiative Group
10. Mr. Ljubomir Miladinovic, Head of International Cooperation Department, Red Cross Serbia
11. Ms. Marina Mijatovic, Director, Law Scanner
12. Mr. Marko Savkovic, Program Director, Belgrade Security Forum Team, BFPE
13. Ms. Milica Stranjakovic, Center for Social Policy (CSP)
14. Ms. Sanja Popovic –Pantic, PhD, President, Association of Business Women in Serbia
15. Ms. Suzana Grubješić, Fellow in International Relations, CIRSD
16. Mr. Vladan Djukanovic, Programme Coordinator, National Youth Council of Serbia
17. Mr. Zivojin Mitrovic, Deputy Chairman, Roma National Minority Council, Roma Heart
18. Mr. Stefan Kondic, United Nations Association in Serbia
19. Natasa Corbic, Serbia on the Move
20. Dragana Koruga, Center for Interactive Pedagogy

**UN Agencies**

1. Mr. Aleksandar Mentov, National Project Manager, FAO Regional Office For Europe and Central Asia
2. Mr. Dragan Mladenovic, UNOPS
3. Mr. Jovan Protic, ILO National Coordinator for Serbia
4. Ms. Maneesha Doig, Politial Affairs Officer, UNOB
5. Mr. Michel Saint-Lot, Representative , United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
6. Mr. Predrag Zivotic, Reproductive Health Programme Analyst, UNFP
7. Ms. Aleksandra Stamenkovic, UNRCO

**KEY CONCLUSIONS AND ACTION POINTS:**

* Participants have expressed appreciation for the joint meeting that was convened by the UN RC. It was proposed to organize periodically similar meetings and to exchange information.
* UN RCO took note of the CSO partners proposal and promised that follow up meetings will be held in the future. In order to structure the follow up discussions, RCO will ask CSOs to confirm their interest for specific SDGs. Lists of CSOs interlocutors according to the topics of interest will be formed accordingly.
* During the discussion CSO partners have encouraged Serbian Government to vote for all 17 goals, as they stand now, in the coming meetings of the member states in UN HQ in NY.
* CSOs have stressed that the implementation of the SDGs will call for strong trans-border cooperation. They have also pointed out that the SDGs agenda is much wider than the EU accession agenda. These aspects of the SDGs that are not a part of the EU accession dialogue should be given priority when making implementation plans.
* MFA informed the CSO partners of Government’s plan to establish an inter ministerial working group on SDGs. CSO have expressed interest in contributing to the work of this group once it is in place and operational. It was also proposed to open the dialogue with business sector and include them as well in the SDG related dialogue in Serbia. UN team and the Parliament were also mentioned as important partners in this dialogue.
* When prioritizing SDG implementation activities, CSOs stressed that the following aspects should not be lost from the focus: poorest municipalities, vulnerable populations (ie Roma, elderly etc), gender issues including gender based violence, ecuation and advocacy campaigns on SDGs targeting wide populations, sexual/reproductive health, environmental issues and related awareness, youth as drivers of the sustainable development and many others.
* Particular attention was dedicated to bringing up to the focus the topic of the new refugee crisis and migration issues that will deserve attention from the human security point of view. CSOs advocated for an wide view to the causes of the problem, its linkages to some other global problems (ie arms sales) and identification of sustainable solutions that call for global/regional approach.
* CSOs have advoacated that SDGs implementation will call for a responsible policy making, adequate budgeting and good statistics for evidence based policy making. These are the challenges from MDG implementation that need to be avoided.
* Many useful reference document/practices were presented and made reference to during the discussion:
* Open Society – Joint Statement of the Regional CSO on Post 2015-SDGs in Western Balkans (attached for easy reference)
* Secons – SDGs in Serbia and preliminary links with national priorities (attached for easy reference)
* UNA – Sustainable Development in Young Hands
* Red Cross of Serbia – IFRC 2020 Strategy
* Environmental Ambassadors for SD – ECO schools in Serbia is a good mechanism to scale up
* Association of Business Women – Strategy for Women Enterpreneurship
* CSOs have stressed their limited capacity and appealed for the need to strengthen their capacity to support the SDG implementation. Particularly important will be to pay attention to Roma CSOs .