**GCSPF Annual Strategic Meeting November 2019**

**Concept note
Joint engagement at CSocD, CSW and HLPF 2020**

Engagement within the processes of the Commission for Social Development, 58th Session and the Commission on the Status of Women 64th session and the High Level Forum 2020 are predetermined by the theme of each session. 2020 is a commemorative year across the processes, 75th Anniversary of the Commission for Social Development, 25 years since the World Summit for Social Development – Copenhagen, 25 years of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 10 years of UN Women and 5 years since the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals. Follow up of the World Summit for Social Development and of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is through the pre-existing UN processes of the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women.

**CSocD 58**

There are stark contrasts between the two functional commissions, the former garnering little or no interest and the latter having high number of women from around the world attending and engaging. The theme for the Commission for Social Development, February 10 – 19, 2020 is ‘Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness’ allowing the coalition to spotlight the key interconnections between the right to adequate shelter and the right to social protection. Just as the NGO Committee for Social Development put the concept of social protection floors in the limelight in 2012 and has kept it to the fore since so now also there is strong engagement and preparation for the upcoming Commission. A draft resolution has been prepared and is with DESA as a resolution text on the priority theme. There are strong connections between homelessness and the need for social protection floor to promote human rights and to address vulnerabilities for all across the life course.

[Draft of suggestion Resolution](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B12MY21rUARQNWRBMUU3RWtJa2J2NVFZVU13dEhpX1JyajJB/view?usp=sharing) – with multiple references to social protection systems and floors.

Written Statement to the Commission have closed - [Joint NGO Statement](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jGD6_AZhv1PTiuCwZ4aX_n_J51QCUTTL/view?usp=sharing)

Sylvia and Winifred of the core group of the coalition have put together a side event to take place on the 12th February 10am -11.15 in Comm9ittee Room 12 with the title ‘The right of all to roofs and floors for all - affordable housing and universal social protection’. The panel is to be moderated by Mr Paul Ladd, Director of UNRISD, and, and will feature Mr Juha Kaakinen, Finnish expert on housing and eradicating homelessness, Ms Marta Roig, lead author of the recent UNDESA report ‘State of our World’ on inequalities and social protection, Joanna Padgett, lead researcher on homelessness, Christina Behrendt of the ILO on the nexus between policies on furthering the universal right to social protection and tackling homelessness and a member of the Coalition to introduce SPF financing proposals. Respondents will include representatives of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing, the Stakeholder Group on Disabilities and the Global Call for Action against Poverty. It is also expected a representative from the Africa group in NY will introduce the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security.’ Africa.

The report and the presentations of the side event “The right of all to roofs & floors: Affordable housing and social protection” are available [here](http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/20200212-CSocD58-The-Right-Roofs-Floors-side-event-report.pdf).

The Civil Society Forum will be held during the Commission on Friday 14th February. [A Civil Society Declaration](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CJM8_S9UivC5Fj8UjJXFHNZCOGfueaKalXA21AkOsJA/edit?ts=5db1b7da) is in process – again with strong emphasis on implementation of national floors of social protection. There is concern that there may be attempts to reduce the scope of the Commission in future years, and there is a call to civil society and member states to actively support its focus on social protection and human rights.

**CSW 64**

The Commission for the Status of Women is the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The Commission will take place from March 9 - 20, 2020 in NY. A Bureau is in place.

* H.E. Mr. Mher Margaryan (Armenia), Chair (Eastern European States Group)
* Mr. Mohammed S. Marzooq (Iraq), Vice-Chair (Asia-Pacific States Group)
* Ms. Jo Feldman (Australia), Vice-Chair (Western European and other States Group)
* Ms. Nora Bellout (Algeria), Vice-Chair designate (African States Group)
* Ms. Devita Abraham (Trinidad and Tobago), Vice-Chair designate (Latin American and Caribbean States Group)

There will be no outcome document this year – but a short political declaration. The written statements deadline has passed. Side events and up to 400 parallel events are planned. There will be opportunities for an oral intervention and maybe opportunities to be respondents to presentations on various themes. Coalition members will be active in the NGO segment oif the Commission, including through a ‘conversation circle’ on intergenerational issues to take place on March 11th from 1-2.30 at the Armenian Centre.

**Generation Equality Forum**

Simultaneously there is Generation Equality Forum being organized by UN Women, France Mexico and Civil Society. One member from each forms a core group to facilitate the process. Mobilization has begun at the Regional conferences in Africa, and Europe already completed. The one for Latin America scheduled for Chile has been cancelled. Asia Pacific and Mena region is yet to take place.

There is a maestro conferencing platform to prepare material in 6 areas to bring forward towards ACTION COALITIONS – to be formulated in Mexico and celebrated in Paris. The year will end with a high level panel during the opening of the 76th Session of the General Assembly in September 2020. Among the themes is ‘**Poverty Eradication, social protection and social services. ’Winfred** will be working in this group.

**HLPF 2020 July 7 – 16, 2020 under the auspices of ECOSOC**

The proposed theme as discussed on November 5, 2019 [“Transformative pathways to realize the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”](https://www.un.org/pga/74/wp-content/uploads/sites/99/2019/11/PGAs-letter-Theme-of-ECOSOC-1-Nov.pdf) under the leadership of the Ambassador from New Zealand. [51 countries](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020#vnrs) (28 first time presenters, and 22 second time presenters and one third time presenter) will be conducting Voluntary National Reviews at the HLPF. The potential for coalition sponsored side events will be explored, with the focus on social protection for all and human rights implementation being the key for transformative pathways to sustainable development.

Regional meetings are being held to prepare input to the HLPF. Walter and Sylvia will be at the UNECE meeting 18-20 March Geneva and will contribute to the VNR sessions of the civil society meeting on the 18th and participate in the intergovernmental sessions 19/20 March.

There is a schedule for the regional meetings posted:

* [United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA):](https://www.uneca.org/arfsd2019) 24-27 February 2020,Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
* [United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA):](https://www.unescwa.org/events/upcoming) 11 - 13 March 2020, Beirut, Lebanon
* [United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE):](http://www.unece.org/sustainable-development/rfsd2019.html) 19 - 20 March 2020, Geneva, Switzerland
* [United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP):](https://www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/apfsd6) 25 - 27 March 2020, Bangkok, Thailand
* [United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)](https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2020/en): 28 – 31 March, Havana, Cuba

**The timetable is that the** 51 countries (28 first time presenters, 22 second time presenters and one third time presenter) will present their national voluntary reviews beginning on Monday, 13 July 2020 (the last of the first five days of HLPF) and proceed for the three days of the ministerial segment of HLPF (14 – 16 July 2020).

**28 first-time presenters:**

Austria, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Federated States of Micronesia, Mozambique, North Macedonia, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and Zambia and

**22 second time presenters:**

Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belize, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Honduras, India, Jordan, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Samoa, Slovenia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

**One third time presenter**

The programme and the concept note for the programme are available [here](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020#programme). This [link](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/24802Comprehensive_HLPF_Survey_Results_FINAL.pdf) gives a summary of the research undertaken at the end of 4 years. There is a call for increased civil society participation; increased focus on interlinkages, solution and concrete recommendations; allow for critical reflection on the VNR’s; increase the time for VNR presentation to allow for depth/peer learning from the VNRs; more engaging discussion and fewer prepared statements.

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