The Role of Major Groups in the Post-Rio+20 Agenda

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Major Groups and "The Future We Want"

- Pre-Rio+20: almost two-thirds of Submissions for the Zero Draft came from the Major Groups
- * Rio+20: there were more MGS participants than government delegates
- * "Major Groups and Stakeholders": only mentioned seven (7) times in the Rio+20 Outcome Document (53 pp, 283 paras.)
 - * "Local communities" mentioned eight (8) times
 - * "NGOs": three (3) times
 - * "Trade unions: five (5) times
- * Section on "Engaging Major Groups and Other Stakeholders" (paras. 42-55) under the chapter on Renewing Political Commitments

Major Groups and "The Future We Want"

- * Para 43: "... we agree to work more closely with the major groups and other stakeholders and encourage their active participation, as appropriate, in processes that contribute to decision-making, planning and implementation of policies and programmes for sustainable development at all levels."
- * Para 76 (IFSD): (h) Enhance the participation and effective engagement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the relevant international forums and in this regard promote transparency and broad public participation and partnerships to implement sustainable development

Major Groups and "The Future We Want"

- * Outcomes on the role and participation of MGS, especially civil society, are very weak and do not present any substantive leap for engagement at the intergovernmental level
 - * Ex.: "Acknowledge" the role of civil society, "Note" the role of NGOs vs. "Stress the importance" of the role/participation of Women, Indigenous Peoples, Youth and Children, Workers and Trade Union; "as appropriate"
- * Result of increasing civil society political strength and influence since 1992?

Possible Entry Points for Post-Rio+20 Political Engagement

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- 2) High-level political forum (HLPF)
- 3) UNEP strengthening and upgrading
- 4) Finance
- 5) Technology
- 6) 10-Year Framework Plan on Sustainable Production and Consumption
- 7) Future Generations
- 8) Oceans
- 9) Beyond GDP
- 10) Other Thematic Areas

Opportunities for MGS engagement in post-Rio+20 Agenda

- * There are 12 intergovernmental processes (that will be) established by UNGA-67 to implement Rio+20 outcomes
 - * No formal mechanism for MGS and civil society to input into and interact with the UNGA in NY
 - * Egypt is tasked to act as the focal point for the omnibus resolution on the establishment of these processes
- * None of these intergovernmental processes explicitly include the active participation of MGS/civil society
 - * some refer to "open and full involvement of" or "broad consultation with" "relevant stakeholders", but without any clear mechanism to enable that

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- * Para 248: established an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process on SDGs that is **open to all stakeholders**;
 - * Major Groups: submitted a proposal to the UNGA Second Committee and key Missions for the establishment of a Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) comprised of reps from 9 MGs, with gender and regional balance
- * An open working group shall be constituted no later than at the opening of UNGA-67 and shall comprise 30 representatives nominated by Member States from the five UN regional groups
- <u>Status:</u> Brazil delegated by UNGA President to coordinate the establishment of the OWG
 - * Not yet constituted; regional groups have not yet agreed on the number of seats that should be allocated to each region

hable Development Goals (SDGs)

ed Working Group on SDGs (OWG)

e on its methods of work, including developing s to ensure the full involvement of relevant ers and expertise from civil society, the scientific ty and the UN system in its work, in order to provide of perspectives and experience.

mit a report, to the UNGA-68, containing a proposal or consideration and appropriate action.

through establishing an inter-agency technical am and expert panels, as needed, drawing on all xpert advice

