



Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Distr.: General
23 May 2024

English only

Report of the High-level Committee on Programmes at its forty-seventh session

(United Nations Population Fund Headquarters, New York,
11 and 12 March 2024)

I. Introduction

1. The High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) held its forty-seventh session at the headquarters of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in New York on 11 and 12 March 2024. The agenda of the session and the list of participants are contained in annexes I and II, respectively, to the present report.

2. In opening the meeting, the Chair of the Committee, the Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Inger Andersen, expressed deep gratitude to UNFPA for generously hosting the meeting.

3. In her welcoming remarks, the Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director (Programme) of UNFPA, Diene Keita, observed that the world was rapidly changing, including in terms of demographic megatrends such as population growth, ageing, urbanization and migration. The year 2024 was an important one, among other things, for marking the thirtieth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development. In September 2024, the Summit of the Future would be convened, providing a unique opportunity to reinvigorate multilateralism and commit to working towards a better world for present and future generations. Against that background, she noted that the Committee's think tank function was more critical than ever. The HLCP agenda covered a series of interconnected issues that had important implications for sustainable development and that affected the lives, well-being and rights of people around the world. To have the desired impact, Ms. Keita stressed that it was crucial to translate the Committee's policy coordination efforts into effective programming at the country level.

4. Echoing the words of the host, the Chair pointed to 2024 as a pivotal year of widespread elections, characterized by a fragmented geopolitical landscape, war and conflict, unabated climate change, a cost-of-living crisis and other forces that threatened the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Despite the challenging global environment, the recently concluded United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP had been successful in reaching an agreement on numerous critical issues. The process towards the upcoming Summit of the Future had sparked a global conversation on multilateralism and on how the multilateral system could be more responsive to demands. The Chair called on HLCP, as a collective, and its



individual member organizations to support the Secretary-General and Member States towards achieving an ambitious outcome at the Summit. In that context, she informed members that the Committee's work on duties to the future and international data governance had been provided as input to the stakeholder consultation processes on the Declaration on Future Generations and a global digital compact.

5. The Chair proceeded to outline the agenda for the session, in which the Committee was asked to approve the draft United Nations system white paper on governance of artificial intelligence as a system-wide contribution to the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence; take note of the proposed process to produce a system-wide approach to internal displacement for consideration at the Committee's forty-eighth session and provide feedback on the initial assessment of the displacement challenge presented on behalf of the working group; approve a proposal on the preparation of a coherent and strategic United Nations system contribution on climate change to the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and approve the United Nations system-wide strategy for water and sanitation mandated by the General Assembly and developed through UN-Water.

II. Use and governance of artificial intelligence and related frontier technologies

6. Taking up the first item on the agenda, the Chair invited members to consider the matter of the use and governance of artificial intelligence and related frontier technologies. The item had been deliberated on previously at the joint session of HLCP and the High-level Committee on Management (HLCM) held in October 2023 and had gained more prominence among Member States and stakeholders as the technology continued to proliferate. Artificial intelligence was seen as affecting the work of all entities and, therefore, it was important for the United Nations system to enhance its understanding of and coordination and coherence on the issue. The Committee's discussion at the current session would consist of two parts: (a) dialogue with a member of the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence; and (b) consideration of the draft United Nations system white paper on artificial intelligence governance.

7. The Chair welcomed the virtual participation of the Deputy Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Tomas Lamanauskas, and the Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Gabriela Ramos, as Co-Chairs of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, to present the draft United Nations system white paper on artificial intelligence governance prepared by the Working Group. The Chair informed the Committee that the preliminary findings of the white paper had been shared with the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence through the Office of the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Technology in December 2023.

8. Observing that the work on artificial intelligence had been contextualized in the broader technological landscape, the Chair encouraged members to approach the topic as part of a broader suite of technological transformations. Discussion around artificial intelligence governance had advanced significantly in intergovernmental forums, including within the context of the development of the global digital compact and preparations for the Summit of the Future. It was evident from the findings contained in the white paper that many of the activities of the United Nations system were relevant for the governance of artificial intelligence.

A. Dialogue with a member of the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence

9. The Chair welcomed to the dialogue Philip Thigo, who was participating virtually in his capacity as a member of the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence, and noted that, within HLCP, work on both artificial intelligence norms and capacity development had been progressing since 2017. The Committee, at its present session, was considering a draft United Nations system white paper on artificial intelligence governance, which was to be submitted to the High-level Advisory Body upon its finalization, as a United Nations system-wide contribution. Observing that the United Nations system had significant experience in the governance of global issues and was confronted with artificial intelligence governance issues across diverse sectors, the Chair viewed the dialogue as an important opportunity to exchange views between the High-level Advisory Body and HLCP, with a view to enriching the understanding and work of both bodies.

10. Mr. Thigo appreciated the chance to engage with members of the Committee and, at the outset, acknowledged the importance of the role played by the United Nations in fostering a global, inclusive and coordinated approach to harnessing the benefits of artificial intelligence for humanity, especially against the backdrop of fragmented international and regional governance approaches, and gaps in global governance. It was also important that a global process address both the risks and opportunities of artificial intelligence, including for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Mr. Thigo shared that the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence had been considering these issues and was organized around five thematic areas: (a) opportunities and enablers; (b) risks and challenges; (c) interoperability; (d) alignment with United Nations norms and values, including the Charter of the United Nations; and (e) the role of international institutions. The High-level Advisory Body was currently in the process of conducting consultations with stakeholders, after having released its interim report entitled “Governing artificial intelligence for humanity” in December 2023, and was aiming to release its final report prior to the Summit of the Future, in September 2024, and feed into the global digital compact. Mr. Thigo referred to the five foundational principles and seven institutional functions identified in the interim report, while reflecting on what a new governance architecture for artificial intelligence might look like. It was crucial to address fragmentation and anchor any artificial intelligence governance framework in the Charter and international human rights law, while ensuring inclusivity and enabling artificial intelligence to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by facilitating access for countries in the global South to data, compute and talent through international collaboration.

11. In the ensuing discussion, members reacted to Mr. Thigo’s presentation. There was strong agreement that artificial intelligence governance should be anchored in the Charter, human rights and international law, which was also reflected in the draft white paper prepared by the Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence. Upholding human rights was a core mandate of the United Nations, and addressing and mitigating the risks of artificial intelligence through the different instruments available within the United Nations system was viewed as a way of adding particular value. The UNESCO recommendation on the ethics of artificial intelligence was also suggested as a normative foundation. Members expressed concern about the level of bias in artificial intelligence and data sets and, in particular, about the impact of that bias on gender equality and its potential to exacerbate other forms of inequalities. Relatedly, data governance, including the protection of human rights in the collection, use and management of data, was also suggested as a critical aspect of artificial intelligence governance.

12. Ensuring that artificial intelligence supported sustainable development was as important as addressing risks. In that regard, suggestions were made to support capacity development for Member States in the governance of artificial intelligence and in designing regulatory frameworks that would responsibly unlock the benefits of artificial intelligence for all people. Investment in artificial intelligence for public goods, particularly in sectors where market incentives were insufficient, access to artificial intelligence applications and the building of domestic capacity to develop artificial intelligence technologies and applications were also areas in need of further consideration. To enable artificial intelligence development, access to data was critical, and the United Nations system could support Member States in better utilizing data, including through open data initiatives. Members expressed concern regarding inequalities between countries based on uneven access to crucial technologies. In that context, it was noted that lessons could be learned from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the ongoing negotiations to agree on a pandemic prevention, preparedness and response accord.

13. Given the broad-based impacts of artificial intelligence on people, it could be expected that artificial intelligence governance would intersect with governments at the global, national and local levels. Members supported the involvement of stakeholders in artificial intelligence governance, noting that various United Nations system entities had institutional mechanisms that facilitated such engagement. Regarding the private sector specifically, there was strong support for continued engagement; however, concerns were also raised around the concentration of data and artificial intelligence, as well as business models that did not adequately address human rights, ethics or inequalities.

14. Linking the dialogue to the work of the Committee, members highlighted that the draft white paper provided useful information on the wealth of existing work, models and frameworks within the United Nations system that were potentially relevant to artificial intelligence governance and that were seen as well aligned with the observations and proposals contained in the interim report of the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence. It was suggested that the High-level Advisory Body could leverage the knowledge and expertise of the United Nations system by drawing on the white paper. Further engagements between members of the High-level Advisory Body and the United Nations system were also encouraged as a way to integrate different processes towards a common goal.

15. In responding to the discussion, Mr. Thigo noted that one issue of particular interest for the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence was finance, especially in the light of the extensive capital requirements for data, compute and talent, at a time when many Governments were experiencing significant fiscal constraints. The question of how financing for artificial intelligence and digital transformation was linked to ongoing discussions around the international financial architecture was also to be explored. Another key area was engaging with partners on how artificial intelligence could be more inclusive, for example of diverse languages, and a positive force for small and medium-sized enterprises (including in the global South), gender equality and communities around the world that were not yet connected to the Internet. He also shared the view that artificial intelligence governance would need to be multilayered and networked and include a role for local authorities as the providers of many essential services. Mr. Thigo also saw a role for the United Nations system, particularly in use cases that were sector-specific. He stressed that the issue of inequalities was a central concern for the governance of artificial intelligence, including unequal access to technologies and expertise, particularly in the public sector and the global South, and that, accordingly, arrangements that promoted inclusivity, expanded capacity and enabled innovative financing were crucial.

16. In closing, the Chair expressed her appreciation to Mr. Thigo and to the members of the Committee for engaging in an insightful and informative dialogue. The United Nations system had much to offer to the ongoing deliberations on artificial intelligence governance, including sectoral expertise and innovative ways of addressing emerging challenges and opportunities that were anchored in the Charter and human rights.

B. United Nations system white paper on artificial intelligence governance

17. Turning to the United Nations system white paper on artificial intelligence governance, the Chair recalled the decision of the joint HLCP-HLCM session of October 2023, in which the Committees requested the Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence, with input from HLCM, as relevant, to develop a white paper on artificial intelligence governance, with an initial draft to be prepared by the end of 2023 and a full draft to be ready for consideration at the forty-seventh session of HLCP. The Chair also informed members that, after the joint session, CEB took up the matter of the governance and use of artificial intelligence for the common good, during which it welcomed the work of the Committees. She expressed her appreciation for the numerous contributions from across the United Nations system and for the efforts of the Working Group, under the leadership of ITU and UNESCO, in synthesizing those inputs into the draft white paper. The draft white paper was viewed as a useful document for United Nations system coordination and collaboration in the field of artificial intelligence and would also be submitted as an input to the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence. Referring to the guiding questions that were intended to inform the discussion, the Chair encouraged members to share reflections on the findings of the white paper, react to its recommendations and engage in a discussion on actions and next steps for the United Nations system to enhance system-wide coherence and coordination on artificial intelligence, including through the Working Group.

18. In introducing the document, Ms. Ramos thanked members for their valuable inputs to the white paper, which had benefited from contributions from more than 40 United Nations system entities. The white paper was a strategic-level document containing analyses of institutional models, functions and normative instruments that could be applied to or leveraged for international artificial intelligence governance. It outlined areas where there had already been effective action from the United Nations system and identified spheres that could be strengthened. Such information could be a valuable input to the work of the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence and for the development of the global digital compact. Ms. Ramos highlighted that over 50 existing normative instruments under the auspices of United Nations system entities had been identified, with varying levels of scope, which presented a strong foundation for normative efforts on artificial intelligence governance.

19. Mr. Lamanauskas added that the United Nations system was proactively tackling artificial intelligence issues in a substantive manner. The approach of the white paper was situated within the broader context of frontier technologies, whereby artificial intelligence governance was linked to data governance, cybersecurity and other issues. Regarding governance mechanisms, lessons learned from the operational modalities of existing institutions, including in such areas as risk mitigation, regulatory coordination and the addressing of development needs, were included in the white paper and could inform ongoing deliberations. Gaps in artificial intelligence governance were also identified, for example in the field of international security, and were the subject of ongoing discussions among Member States. Mr. Lamanauskas

outlined both the general and specific recommendations addressed to the United Nations system in the white paper, including the priority of capacity development for artificial intelligence specialists and policy practitioners within the United Nations system and among Member States.

20. In responding to the presentations by the Co-Chairs, members expressed strong support for the analysis and recommendations contained in the white paper. There was especially strong support for an overall approach to artificial intelligence governance that was grounded in the Charter, international law and human rights and that drew on existing instruments and processes within the United Nations system. Members acknowledged the broader digital ecosystem that influenced the use and governance of artificial intelligence and supported an approach that linked the governance of artificial intelligence across its life cycle with other frontier technologies and digital transformation, as well as with international data governance and cybersecurity, which were issues also under consideration by the Committee. Digital capacity development, the strengthening of Governments' ability to regulate and use artificial intelligence, and support for the broader digital ecosystem were also raised. Given the different types of artificial intelligence systems and varying use cases, the exact scope and focus of different forms of governance was recognized.

21. Members supported the continuation of the balanced approach of addressing both the risks and opportunities of artificial intelligence, which had characterized the Committee's work on artificial intelligence up to that point and which was also reflected in the draft white paper. To effectively support Member States in maximizing opportunities while addressing risks, capacity development – both internal and external – was critical. Capacity development was needed within United Nations system entities to foster agility, build human capital and create an enabling environment for innovation, including through leveraging the United Nations 2.0 initiative. It was vital to support staff members, including through peer support networks, in better understanding artificial intelligence, not only to enable United Nations system entities to use and develop artificial intelligence to strengthen their operations but also to enhance the ability of the United Nations system to provide technical advisory services to Member States. Such services were especially important for the application of artificial intelligence in high-risk sectors or in contexts where particularly vulnerable populations could be affected.

22. Concerning capacity-development assistance to Member States, support for institutional, legal and policy frameworks that would enable countries to effectively govern artificial intelligence while unlocking its potential and enabling sustainable development was vital for creating a more level playing field across all countries and for ensuring that artificial intelligence benefited all. The United Nations system was already generating data and developing artificial intelligence applications to an increasing extent and therefore had the capacity to further support Member States in leveraging data and artificial intelligence for the common good. International cooperation and knowledge-sharing, improved access to data, including open data, and enabling the equal participation of countries from the global South in artificial intelligence governance were seen as important, especially given the concentration of power, data and technical capacities within a small number of firms and countries. Members supported an equitable and inclusive approach that would strengthen multilateralism and enhance support to Member States in leveraging artificial intelligence for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

23. Concerning the use of artificial intelligence, members referred to the diverse risks associated with the technology, including sector-specific risks. In addition to the risks identified in the draft white paper, members also noted the impacts of artificial intelligence on peace, financial stability, decent work, international shipping and gender equality. Risks associated with artificial intelligence were not static; the

technology continued to evolve, its impact was becoming better understood, and new use cases were emerging. The dual-use nature of artificial intelligence could also blur the distinction between civilian and malicious uses that had a negative impact on security. Such risks needed to be addressed, including through appropriate due diligence mechanisms and by applying international human rights instruments and ethical frameworks.

24. Members viewed the normative function and human rights-based approach of the United Nations system as particularly important for its work on artificial intelligence. Since the development of new international law was complex and required time, existing international law and common standards that could be applied to artificial intelligence were viewed as important instruments for artificial intelligence governance. International human rights law and treaties, including conventions relating to the rights of children and on discrimination against women, were already applicable to artificial intelligence.

25. Another widely supported recommendation contained in the draft white paper was to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system on artificial intelligence. There was support for the proposal to develop a combined toolbox to support Member States, by bringing together and harmonizing different initiatives, understanding their linkages, avoiding fragmentation and duplication and rationalizing the way forward. Strengthened coordination would leverage the range of expertise available in the United Nations system, including technical and sectoral know-how, for the use and governance of artificial intelligence for the public good.

26. The Committee agreed that coordination across international efforts was desirable, including understanding the linkages between global and regional instruments. As regional and national efforts were pursued in parallel to deliberations on global governance, ensuring coherence and interoperability was key. Regional entities could bridge global and regional approaches and support the use of artificial intelligence applications in diverse contexts, including through regional policy laboratories and sandboxes.

27. In addition to government involvement, stakeholder engagement was also viewed as critical to the success of artificial intelligence governance. The convening power of the United Nations could be leveraged to facilitate engagement with the private sector and civil society, including through existing mechanisms, such as the Internet Governance Forum, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals.

28. Members found the draft paper particularly informative, as it contained rich examples from across the United Nations system on existing models, frameworks and instruments related to artificial intelligence, which could be useful for deliberations on international governance of artificial intelligence. As discussions among Member States on artificial intelligence governance at the intergovernmental level progressed, the United Nations system needed to be well coordinated and share relevant information with a sense of urgency.

29. In response to the Committee's comments, Mr. Lamanauskas thanked members for their strong support of the draft white paper and for sharing useful additional thoughts on the topic, which would be helpful in informing the future work of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence. There was broad agreement to build on and leverage existing capabilities within the United Nations system in moving forward on artificial intelligence, and on the need for the work on artificial intelligence to be well coordinated, including with the HLCCM task force to develop a system-wide normative and operational framework on the use of artificial intelligence in the United Nations system. Mr. Lamanauskas acknowledged the shared view that

artificial intelligence governance should be grounded in international law and human rights. Capacity development had been emerging as an important issue for both Member States, in particular those of the global South, and the United Nations system. The voice of the global South was also important in the governance of artificial intelligence, and the United Nations system had a role to play in making sure that that voice was heard. Similarly, other stakeholders, in particular the private sector, had a critical role to play in the governance of artificial intelligence, which could be an area for further exploration by the Working Group. Recognizing the speed at which artificial intelligence technologies were evolving, Mr. Lamanauskas emphasized the need to move quickly to keep pace, including through iterative approaches, and to be responsive to the needs of Member States. Ms. Ramos recalled the mandate for the paper and concurred that the analysis contained in the draft white paper could be an impactful contribution to the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence and to the ongoing consultations for the global digital compact and the Summit of the Future. The white paper was the result of a broad-based and consultative inter-agency effort that reflected the contributions of many entities and demonstrated the value of the Working Group as a coordination mechanism on artificial intelligence in the United Nations system.

30. The Chair thanked Mr. Lamanauskas and Ms. Ramos for co-chairing the Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence and expressed her appreciation to HLCP members for their helpful insights and comments on the draft white paper and its recommendations. These included suggestions for supporting sustainable development, expanding capacity development, applying a rights-based approach, including gender equality and the rights of children, to artificial intelligence, identifying gaps in artificial intelligence governance and governing sector-specific applications of artificial intelligence. The Chair stressed that the HLCP process to develop the white paper, analyse existing instruments and enhance system-wide cooperation and coordination was distinct from the work of the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence, which was a process that had been established by the Secretary-General to deliver a report prior to the Summit of the Future. Acknowledging the support among members for the draft white paper and recalling the decision of CEB, the Chair emphasized the importance of finalizing the white paper in a timely manner so that it could inform ongoing deliberations, including those of the High-level Advisory Board. The Committee's considerations would also guide the follow-up to the white paper, including that of the Working Group, bearing in mind ongoing intergovernmental processes.

Conclusion

31. The Committee welcomed the draft United Nations system white paper on artificial intelligence governance and approved the paper, subject to the incorporation of final inputs from members, for onward transmission to CEB for endorsement.

32. The Committee requested the Secretariat, on behalf of its Chair, to submit the white paper, upon its finalization by the Committee, to the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence as a United Nations system contribution in support of the Body's ongoing work.

33. The Committee requested the Inter-agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence to develop a proposal for enhancing United Nations system coordination and policy coherence in support of artificial intelligence governance, taking into account relevant recommendations contained in the white paper and evolving guidance from Member States, for consideration by HLCP at its forty-eighth session.

III. Promoting system-wide coherence on internal displacement

34. The Chair welcomed the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Solutions to Internal Displacement, Robert Piper. She reported that a working group comprising 28 entities had been formed, further to the Committee's decision at its forty-sixth session to pursue a process to promote system-wide coherence on internal displacement that spanned the humanitarian, development and peace and security pillars. The Chair reminded members that the work built on the 2021 report of the High-level Panel on Internal Displacement and the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement of 2022. The working group was proposing a two-phase process to produce a system-wide approach to internal displacement: (a) establishing a shared understanding of the underlying systemic challenges; and (b) agreeing on how to organize the United Nations system to address internal displacement more predictably, promote cross-pillar action with clear roles and raise the visibility of the issue. At the current session, the Committee was asked to consider the background paper and provide feedback and guidance.

35. Reiterating that the complex, multidimensional and growing challenge of internal displacement required a whole-of-United Nations system approach, the Special Adviser set out three goals for the Committee's discussion: (a) agree on the process to develop the system-wide approach; (b) share reactions to the preliminary framing of the internal displacement problem; and (c) initiate discussions on how to address it. He recalled that his Office was due to be closed in December 2024 and that, in the meantime, its work was focused on developing solution models based on learnings from 15 pilot countries, which would feed into the system-wide approach. The recently completed independent review of the humanitarian response to internal displacement, which had been commissioned by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,¹ and the 12 institutional plans developed under the Secretary-General's Action Agenda for Internal Displacement would also inform the HLCP process.

36. With regard to the framing of the internal displacement problem, the Special Adviser invited members to focus particularly on: (a) increasing the interconnectivity of efforts to prevent, respond to and resolve internal displacement, including by bringing development into a traditionally humanitarian space; (b) strengthening the prevention workstream; and (c) connecting the normative work of the United Nations system with operational responses to displacement in countries. As input to the second phase of work, the Special Adviser asked members to respond to discussion questions set out in the background paper on such issues as the predictability of response within countries; the roles, responsibilities and comparative advantages of United Nations system entities; the speed and nimbleness of action by the United Nations system; funding mechanisms; and the need to ensure ongoing headquarters-level coordination after the conclusion of his mandate.

37. In the discussion, HLCP members expressed deep appreciation for the leadership of the Special Adviser and his Office and for the excellent collaboration with their organizations. The Special Adviser's efforts to promote greater coherence around solutions to internal displacement and his engagement with Member States, international financial institutions and donors were lauded. Concern was expressed that after the conclusion of his mandate there would no longer be a champion to bring focus to and elevate the issue, or to support resident coordinators and United Nations country teams. The HLCP system-wide approach had the potential to sustain the work that he had begun through a coordinated and coherent framework for durable solutions.

¹ See https://odi.cdn.ngo/media/documents/IDP_response_summary_1403.pdf.

38. It was reiterated that HLCP, with its representative and high-level membership, was well suited to bring the United Nations system together across pillars to address the complex issue of internal displacement. Notable work was being pursued on internal displacement in other contexts as well, and it was seen as important for the HLCP process to draw from and add value to the broader body of work. Members thanked the working group and appreciated its inclusive approach, which enabled the smaller technical agencies to engage on the topic. The frank appraisal of the problem and the nuanced and insightful gap analysis set out in the background paper were welcomed. There was wide support across the Committee for the proposed process and timeline for developing the system-wide approach. Many members affirmed the intent of their respective organizations to remain engaged in the process.

Phase 1: framing of the internal displacement problem

39. The discussion affirmed the working group's assessment that internal displacement was expected to rise, including as a consequence of the impacts of climate change, and that it was an inherently complex multisectoral issue that required a new approach. The interlinkages between acute food insecurity, climate change, conflict and fragility, which often converged to result in displacement, were highlighted as an example. Accordingly, members agreed on the need for better linkages and integration across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. All actors needed to adopt a comprehensive and solutions-oriented perspective throughout the response process and ensure early engagement of development partners. It was observed that development partners also offered the potential to bring in longer-term financing. To avoid giving the impression that humanitarian response and development solutions were linear or sequential, instead of integrated, it was suggested that the response and solutions sections of the draft paper could be merged. Interest was expressed in further developing the concept of the "circuit breaker" for United Nations country teams, in the form of joint assessments carried out at regular intervals, to determine whether it was appropriate to shift from a humanitarian response to a development-oriented approach.

40. With regard to strengthening the prevention pillar, consistently looking at vulnerability and risk exposure, investing more in political analysis, studying patterns and trends relating to the drivers of displacement and applying strategic foresight could help. Increasing investment in long-term agricultural resilience was highlighted as a way of contributing towards prevention. The specific requirements of women and girls, who faced additional hurdles due to gender inequality, also needed to be identified and addressed. Financing adaptation and climate-proofing were important to safeguard larger investments and avoid future displacement. United Nations efforts to enhance national institutional capacity for supporting prevention were seen as important. It was recommended that a link be established between national displacement strategies and climate and disaster risk reductions strategies.

41. Connecting normative and operational work was seen as a key aim of the system-wide approach. In that context, it would be important to identify and understand normative gaps that needed to be filled. One form of disconnect that had been observed was that high-level commitments to addressing internal displacement could not be operationalized due to a lack of resources at the country level.

Phase 2: organizing the United Nations system to address internal displacement more predictably

42. The Secretary-General's statement in his Action Agenda on Internal Displacement that "more of the same is not good enough" was recalled as a reason to pursue a coherent system-wide approach. Members concurred with the assessment that a predictable, solutions-oriented response was vital. The prospect of a policy

framework that would bring together humanitarian, development and peace actors to address internal displacement was welcomed. Achieving that result would require action at both the global and country levels and entail a shift from a project-based approach to a programmatic one. In that context, it was necessary to consider whether the current coordination system was fit for purpose to collectively address internal displacement issues across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. It was observed that people were displaced for different reasons and had different needs and, thus, merited different responses. Common definitions and frameworks could be useful for promoting coherence. It was suggested that the solutions pathway components developed by the Office of the Special Adviser could serve as building blocks for use at the country level. To support more predictability, merit was seen in exploring how to share knowledge, lessons learned and humanitarian and development data, upon which all entities could draw. However, caution was expressed that a knowledge repository did not automatically translate into action; it would be necessary to think through complementary efforts to foster shifts in mindset and define new ways of working together. The working group was urged to quickly pivot towards identifying the necessary systems change.

43. Members widely recognized the criticality of financing to support predictable and effective action and noted that solutions for internal displacement were not properly funded. Without the necessary resources, entities would not be able to fulfil their roles. Lessons could be learned, from the Peacebuilding Fund for example, on effectively bringing United Nations system entities together through joint financing modalities and instruments. Moreover, dedicated financing windows at the country level could help to support solutions to internal displacement within countries, as seen in other contexts, such as assistance to refugees.

44. In the context of a predictable country-level offer on internal displacement, it was recommended that the division of labour be guided by actors' comparative advantages, which would encourage synergies. Members repeatedly cited the vital and unique contributions of international financial institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions. More detailed analysis could be conducted to ascertain whether efforts by various United Nations system entities were duplicative or complementary. Having entities address an issue from different angles could be beneficial and provide countries with a range of choices to draw upon and sequence. It was acknowledged that expecting all United Nations system entities to be present in any given setting was unrealistic, and there was merit in pursuing a model that could deploy expertise to locations, as needed, which would allow smaller, non-resident entities to contribute towards solutions.

45. A bottom-up approach was recommended, one that was led by Governments and that drew on the expertise and resources of the resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator and the United Nations country team, with the participation of internally displaced persons and host communities. The importance of finding a more solutions-oriented way of financing and working towards common outcomes was emphasized. In that context, it was noted that, compared with a sectoral approach, identifying internal displacement strategies at the community or area-based level would make it easier to bring in development actors and funding. Accordingly, the desirability of a localized approach could be articulated more clearly in the final system-wide approach.

46. Members stressed the critical role of the resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator in providing leadership, promoting collaboration and encouraging synergies. Resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators had proved to be fast and effective actors when provided with support from the global level and the right tools. Reinforcing relevant capacities within resident coordinator offices could help to strengthen their capacity to coherently lead on internal displacement matters. What

was needed in the United Nations country teams was a different mindset and way of working with national authorities and affected communities. The point was made that many country teams had gender and humanitarian action groups, which could be better utilized in the context of internal displacement, since the majority of internally displaced persons were women and children.

47. Given that the challenges of internal displacement required a whole-of-society approach, it was recommended that the role of non-United Nations stakeholders in prevention, response and solutions, as well as modalities of collaboration, be considered in the system-wide approach. The primary responsibility, ownership and leadership of Governments was widely recognized; local authorities, non-governmental organizations and regional development banks were also identified as important partners. Opportunities to leverage or mobilize networks across United Nations system entities could be explored. Members echoed the point made in the background paper that the voices and particular needs of affected populations must be central. Attention was also drawn to the need to ensure that no one was left behind in terms of sustainable connectivity, and in that regard, the digital inclusion of displaced people was stressed as an important element for consideration.

48. Members recognized the need for more agility. Preparing for solutions earlier in the response would promote speed and nimbleness, and development partners in particular needed to accelerate their responses. In addition, the success of internal displacement interventions hinged on the availability of quality data to inform decision-making and, in that regard, the coordination of data, from the outset, across the United Nations system, could help to deliver better-tailored, rapid support. It was also critical that each United Nations entity consistently maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of its administrative procedures.

49. Members agreed with the view of the working group in not supporting the creation of an additional agency or coordination structure for internal displacement. However, some form of global coordination mechanism with an accountability framework and/or means of measuring and monitoring progress towards solutions to internal displacement would be necessary, after the mandate of the Special Adviser came to an end. One existing mechanism that was repeatedly mentioned was the recently revitalized Joint Steering Committee to Advance Humanitarian and Development Collaboration, which was jointly supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Development Coordination Office. The Joint Steering Committee could be leveraged to effect cross-pillar coordination of internal displacement issues at the global level, by bringing together the discussions of the Inter-Agency Steering Committee and the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, supporting both the resident coordinator system and the humanitarian coordination system and ensuring accountability to the systems guiding field-level implementation. Another potentially complementary possibility was for the Steering Group on Solutions to Internal Displacement to continue its work, even in the absence of the Special Adviser. The Peacebuilding Strategy Group was also named as a potentially relevant forum, and the United Nations Food Systems Coordination Hub was offered as a relevant model to enable agile coordination within the United Nations system.

50. Members agreed that existing tools that engaged development partners, namely the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and the common country analysis, could be utilized to bring forced displacement into analysis, planning and programming processes in the development context. Rather than introducing new parallel guidance on internal displacement, it was recommended that any new policy should be aligned with and integrated into existing guidance. Relevant connection points could be introduced; for example, prompts in the common country analysis could ensure that in displacement-affected countries the

humanitarian analysis was linked with the development and socioeconomic analysis. In that context, the importance of development and humanitarian actors working closely together to ensure alignment was stressed.

51. The need for global-level engagement with Member States was recognized. Despite the challenging multilateral environment, pursuing a dialogue on an intergovernmentally agreed framework for addressing internal displacement was seen as important. Without an intergovernmental forum for discussing the issue, a system-wide approach to coordinating United Nations system entities would achieve only limited results. Finding forums for intergovernmental support at the global level would also be relevant in the context of ensuring a predictable response.

52. In reflecting on the Committee's observations and feedback, the Special Adviser stressed the central role of Governments and welcomed the openness exhibited by international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to incorporate internally displaced persons into their analytics. He was pleased that the discourse was shifting away from being exclusively humanitarian towards integrating development perspectives; more effort was also needed to anchor internal displacement more firmly in peace operations.

53. Confirming that their insights would inform the next phase of work, the Special Adviser expressed appreciation for the feedback received from members. Specifically, he referred to points raised, including the need to strengthen the participation of Governments, communities and internally displaced persons; avoid the creation of new structures; build on existing mechanisms; agree on common definitions; intensify mapping activities to look for areas of convergence; and link normative and operational work. He invited members to engage with and guide their respective representatives in the working group, with a view to developing an ambitious strategy. As he saw it, the system-wide approach under HLCP was well timed and very important for bringing together diverse work on displacement. He was confident that the HLCP process would set out a policy statement whose impact would extend beyond his mandate.

54. In concluding the discussion, the Chair noted that the Committee was very supportive of the process and the work already completed. She requested the Special Adviser to relay feedback from the members to the working group on internal displacement, in terms of the common vision or understanding of internal displacement and of how the system-wide approach could help to overcome some of the persistent challenges, so that those elements might be reflected appropriately in the system-wide approach, which was to be considered by the Committee at its next session. The Chair thanked the Special Adviser for leading the effort and invited members to remain engaged in the process.

Conclusion

55. The Committee took note of the process to develop a draft system-wide approach to internal displacement and requested its working group on internal displacement, under the leadership of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, to continue to develop the draft system-wide approach, taking into account the feedback and guidance provided by HLCP, for consideration by the Committee at its forty-eighth session.

IV. Climate change: United Nations system contribution to the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

56. The Chair invited the Committee to turn its attention to the item on climate change and the development of a United Nations system contribution to the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Chair recalled that, at its second regular session of 2023, CEB had reaffirmed its strong commitment to ambitious climate action and, following a discussion on how to rally the United Nations system for the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretary-General and the Board had stressed the need to be well coordinated and prepared for upcoming sessions in 2024 and 2025. She reminded members that the Secretary-General had stressed the issue of climate finance and the new nationally determined contributions and had concluded by asking the Chair of HLCP to establish a process for the United Nations system to come together to produce a coherent and strategic contribution to those sessions, on the basis of a proposal prepared by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat and the Climate Action Team, which was before the Committee for its consideration at the current session.

57. The Chair noted that, in their public statements, the Secretary-General, the President of the World Bank Group and the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund had highlighted the importance of staying on a path towards limiting the rise in global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius, aligning climate finance and transitioning away from fossil fuels. At the current session, the Committee was asked to reflect on how to respond to the task set by CEB, with a particular focus on nationally determined contributions and climate finance, and to deliver a strategic contribution that would allow the leadership of the United Nations system to speak with one voice on key political issues at the two upcoming sessions of the Conference of the Parties. The Chair welcomed the presenters, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Simon Stiell, and the Special Adviser on Climate Action and Just Transition, Selwin Hart, and invited them to present the draft proposal for developing the requested strategic United Nations system contribution to the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference to the Parties.

58. Reflecting on the Secretary-General's request, Mr. Stiell observed that, with a more coordinated approach, the United Nations system could contribute to enhancing the outcomes of the next two sessions of the Conference of the Parties. Those sessions would be critical for securing agreement on the required means of implementation, including finance, through the new collective quantified goal on climate finance and new ambitious nationally determined contributions. He also saw opportunities for the United Nations system to combine its efforts for political mobilization to support the energy transition and the transformation of the global financial architecture. Additional areas where progress was key included the operationalization of the loss and damage fund and the submission of national adaptation plans by all countries, by 2025. Mr. Stiell concluded with a call for the United Nations system and its principals to coalesce around high-ambition messages and maximize the impact of their organizations, so as to respond to the climate crisis, including by leveraging their convening power to engage stakeholders within and beyond the traditional climate sphere.

59. In his subsequent statement, and referring to the geopolitical divide observed during the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties, Mr. Hart welcomed

advances in the areas of climate justice and an accelerated energy transition but also noted that funding to enable climate adaptation, strengthen resilience and address loss and damage remained largely insufficient. Access to finance was a major issue, in particular for the developing world, where countries, confronted with a severe debt crisis and a lack of fiscal space, experienced significant challenges in financing the energy transition and climate adaptation. Mr. Hart considered the preparation of the next round of nationally determined contributions to be an important opportunity to present those new contributions as investment vehicles for accelerating the energy transition, within each national context. For that to be realized, it was vital to engage all relevant ministries, beyond those responsible for the environment, including ministries of finance and planning, in the development of the new, economy-wide nationally determined contributions. In concluding, Mr. Hart reminded members of some of the existing coordination and support mechanisms that had been established, namely the Climate Promise, the task force in support of the presidency of the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties and the informal Climate Principals Group, and highlighted the need to leverage those mechanisms as much as possible and avoid duplication of efforts.

60. In the ensuing discussion, members recognized the impacts of climate change on all aspects of life and on people everywhere. The Committee emphasized the importance of the new nationally determined contributions, which needed to be investable and gender- and age-responsive and to integrate human rights. Particular attention was to be paid to the agricultural, energy, transportation and industrial sectors, as well as to the digital space and green technologies, which played an important role in the energy transition. The United Nations system, in particular through the resident coordinator system, could contribute at the national level to supporting the process – from articulation and development to implementation of the nationally determined contribution – engaging all relevant stakeholders and actors across ministries and sectors and facilitating the sharing of knowledge and best practices. Members were also of the view that it was important to strengthen trust in and better leverage science, in particular in an environment characterized by misinformation and disinformation, to help countries to have a better understanding of climate-related risks and utilize data to formulate evidence-based responses to address them.

61. In their statements, members highlighted the urgent need for more climate finance and expressed concern over the underfunding of climate adaptation. The lack of climate finance was considered to be a major obstacle to ambition and action. Several strategic entry points were identified to address the issue of climate finance, including the integrated national financing frameworks and forthcoming events, such as the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up. Engagement with development banks and international financial institutions ahead of the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties was considered critical. Private sector involvement was equally important, in order to close financing gaps and encourage investments in climate action, through partnerships, including at the local level.

62. The Committee expressed strong support for the proposal to develop common high-level political and strategic messages for the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties and stressed the need for an accelerated timeline for their delivery. It was noted that, once agreed, the system-wide messages could be adjusted to the individual mandates and areas of focus of each entity and tailored, in content and channel, to different audiences beyond the climate sphere to ensure the greatest impact across all sectors of society. In terms of climate finance mapping, members expressed an interest in contributing and asked for more clarity on its proposed scope and use. More in-depth reflections on non-climate financing

contributions were also needed. Regarding the proposed mapping of the United Nations system support to nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans, members offered a number of observations, including the importance of taking into account child-critical essential services, the humanitarian consequences of climate change, loss and damage, and the role of the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund.

63. In their responses to the discussion, Mr. Stiell and Mr. Hart thanked HLCP members for their enthusiasm and insightful comments. They welcomed the Committee's feedback on the proposed mapping of United Nations system support in the areas of climate finance, nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans and acknowledged the need for a whole-of-society, whole-of-government and multisectoral approach. The presenters agreed that, in the current environment, the common messages of the United Nations system needed to be strategic and political in nature, with a focus on key issues and priorities, and suitable for a wider audience. In view of the tight timelines and ongoing work in the areas of climate finance and nationally determined contributions, the presenters stressed the need to assess what was within the purview of the Committee and deliver the proposed outcomes, in particular the common messages, in a coordinated, focused and timely manner.

64. In concluding, the Chair reminded members that the Secretary-General had asked HLCP to prepare a coherent and strategic contribution to the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties and to put in place a process to produce that contribution based on a proposal prepared by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat and the Climate Action Team. Noting that the proposal encompassed elements that were both within and beyond the mandate of the Committee, the Chair suggested that efforts should be focused on the preparation of a set of common messages, in line with the Secretary-General's request for a system-wide strategic contribution, to be prepared by the working group under the direction of the co-leads. To be effective and impactful, the work needed to be undertaken well in advance of the twenty-ninth session. The Chair noted the need to further unpack the suggestions contained in the draft proposal on the mapping of United Nations system climate finance support and of United Nations system support to nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans, in order to ensure that they were succinct and helpful at the country level. The outputs would have to be delivered in September or October 2024, prior to the twenty-ninth session.

Conclusion

65. The Committee welcomed the draft proposal and agreed to establish a time-bound working group, under the leadership of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat and the Climate Action Team, to develop a set of clear, concise and strategic common messages for CEB members, in order to amplify climate action priorities, with a particular focus on nationally determined contributions and climate finance, and to support coherent advocacy by all United Nations system entities at the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Committee requested the working group to present a draft of the messages for the Committee's consideration and approval at a virtual intersessional meeting.

V. United Nations system-wide strategy for water and sanitation

66. In her opening remarks, the Chair recalled that in 2020 UN-Water, a subsidiary mechanism of HLCP comprising 36 United Nations system entities, had developed the Sustainable Development Goal 6 Global Acceleration Framework, which had been welcomed by HLCP and noted by CEB. At the current session, HLCP would consider a system-wide strategy for water and sanitation, also produced by UN-Water. The strategy responded to a demand from both the United Nations system and Member States² to enhance the coordination and delivery of water priorities across the United Nations system. Noting that the strategy provided an opportunity to elevate the water agenda, which cut across the mandates of most United Nations entities, the Chair recalled that the draft strategy had been well received during the virtual consultations conducted ahead of the HLCP session. The aim of the strategy was to fully operationalize inter-agency coordination, capitalize on reforms of the United Nations development system and leverage the upscaled water and sanitation actions of United Nations entities to provide more strategic, effective, coherent and efficient support to Member States. She invited the Chief of the Equality, Development and Rule of Law Section at the New York Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Rio Hada, to introduce the draft strategy to the Committee on behalf of UN-Water.

67. Mr. Hada started by framing water in the global context, citing the 50-year gap between the United Nations conferences on water held in 1977 and 2023, and highlighted the exacerbated pressure on water and sanitation due to multiple crises, both natural and human-made, and how those crises not only undermined the three dimensions of sustainable development but also affected the three pillars of the United Nations.

68. The system-wide strategy encouraged a shift towards one United Nations system that worked holistically to address the interrelated cross-sectoral aspects of water and sanitation as a driver of sustainable development, human rights and peace. It was developed through an inclusive consultative process involving 36 UN-Water members; a number of other entities, including the Development Coordination Office, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; 18 resident coordinator offices/United Nations country teams; and Member States. The strategy comprised five entry points to drive change: (a) lead and inspire collective action on water and sanitation; (b) engage better for countries by leveraging whole-of-United Nations system support and by mobilizing stakeholders and partnerships for water and sanitation; (c) align United Nations system support for the integration of water and sanitation issues across sectors and mainstreaming into intergovernmental processes; (d) accelerate progress and transformational change by unifying United Nations system support through the five Sustainable Development Goal 6 accelerators;³ and (e) account for progress through joint review and learning.

69. Mr. Hada informed the members that the strategy would be officially launched at the Sustainable Development Goal 6 and Water Action Agenda special event that would be held in the margins of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2024. The event was being organized by UN-Water and the

² See General Assembly resolution 77/334, para. 5, and the ministerial declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its sixth session (UNEP/EA.6/HLS.1), para. 6.

³ The five accelerators contained in the Sustainable Development Goal 6 Global Acceleration Framework, adopted by CEB in 2020, are: financing, data and information, capacity development, innovation, and governance.

Department of Economic and Social Affairs and would be preceded by a meeting of the principals, convened by the Chair of UN-Water, to reflect on and demonstrate their commitment to both the strategy and its accompanying collaborative implementation plan, which was currently under development by UN-Water.

70. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee welcomed the strategy and praised the inclusive consultative approach utilized in its preparation. The strategy was seen as a historic step that provided a strong blueprint for collective action and for working cohesively across mandates, in particular at the country level, to ensure effective implementation. In that regard, the important role of the resident coordinators was highlighted.

71. It was suggested that a role should be explored for the United Nations Environment Management Group, with respect to taking forward some of the messages and the support involved in implementing the strategy. The critical use of data, science, technology and education in the management of water resources was raised, as was the importance of the normative-operational interface and capacity development. The disruption to the water cycle caused by climate change was an increasingly urgent threat that created security risks, which were also reflected in the work of several special political missions to facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation on water. Underfunding was cited as a challenge and, consequently, resource mobilization would be important.

72. It was observed that governing body mandates could be leveraged through the collaborative implementation plan of the strategy, so as to encourage alignment. Members mentioned the potential of tapping into upcoming intergovernmental processes that were relevant to water and sanitation issues and of closer collaboration among entities supporting intergovernmental processes related to water.

73. Appreciating the Committee's resounding support of the draft strategy, Mr. Hada noted that many of the comments concerned the collaborative implementation plan of the strategy and encouraged the Committee's members, most of whom were represented in UN-Water, to actively contribute to its elaboration. He concurred with the need to work collaboratively on resource mobilization and on aligning the individual resources and capacities of entities to work together towards the common goal, for which leadership commitment was key. Building on the comments on the relevance of linking the normative and operational aspects of the work, he stressed the importance of tapping into the scientific community for data and technical expertise and of creating mutually supportive synergies among different intergovernmental platforms, keeping in mind that leaving no one behind was a core element of the implementation of the strategy.

74. In closing, the Chair thanked Mr. Hada and all those who had participated and concluded that the strategy was approved.

Conclusion

75. The Committee approved the United Nations system-wide strategy for water and sanitation, for transmittal to CEB for endorsement, and requested that the strategy be implemented through UN-Water.

VI. Any other business

A. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Children Amplified Prevention Services

76. The Chair invited the Chief of the Public Affairs and Policy Support Branch at the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Fedor Klimchuk, to provide a brief presentation on the UNODC initiative Children Amplified Prevention Services.

77. Mr. Klimchuk called the Committee's attention to the landmark Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 65/4 of 18 March 2022 on promoting comprehensive and scientific evidence-based early prevention, which was significant in that it marked the first time that Member States had focused on early prevention strategies for children, from infancy. Driven by the unified political commitment, UNODC had developed the initiative, which was to be launched during the high-level segment of the Commission in March 2024. The effective delivery of prevention services addressing the needs of children from infancy to 18 years of age would amplify effectiveness by increasing the quality, scale and scope of interventions aligned with science and by enhancing cooperation and partnerships. Mr. Klimchuk invited organizations to contribute to the initiative through direct engagement with United Nations country teams in locations where it would be implemented and by supporting the comprehensive global-level partnership and advocacy.

78. In the short discussion that followed, the initiative was welcomed, in particular to ensure that country-level interventions on child drug use prevention were properly planned and coordinated. It was noted that several United Nations system entities had already been identified as partners, along with an array of other organizations, academic institutions, civil society representatives and private sector entities.

B. Dates and location of the forty-eighth session of the Committee

79. The Chair proposed the dates of 7 and 8 October 2024 for the Committee's forty-eighth session, to be hosted by the World Tourism Organization at its headquarters in Madrid.

Conclusion

80. **The Committee approved the dates and location of its forty-eighth session: 7 and 8 October 2024 at the headquarters of the World Tourism Organization in Madrid.**

Annex I

Agenda

1. Use and governance of artificial intelligence and related frontier technologies:
 - (a) Dialogue with a member of the High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence;
 - (b) United Nations system white paper on artificial intelligence governance;
2. Promoting system-wide coherence on internal displacement.
3. Climate change: United Nations system contribution to the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
4. United Nations system-wide strategy for water and sanitation.
5. Any other business:
 - (a) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Children Amplified Prevention Services;
 - (b) Dates and location of the forty-eighth session of the Committee.

Annex II

List of participants

Chair: Ms. Inger Andersen (United Nations Environment Programme)

Acting Secretary: Ms. Xenia von Lilien (High-level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination)

<i>Entity</i>	<i>Name</i>
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Beth Crawford
International Atomic Energy Agency	Constanze Westervoss
International Fund for Agricultural Development	Katherine Meighan
International Labour Organization	Cynthia Samuel-Olonjuwon
International Maritime Organization	Galuh Rarasanti
International Monetary Fund	Robert Powell
International Organization for Migration	Federico Soda
International Telecommunication Union	Tomas Lamanauskas (Co-Chair, Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence)
	Ursula Wynhoven
	Preetam Maloor (Inter- Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence)
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	Angeli Achrekar
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Sajjad Malik
United Nations	
Department of Economic and Social Affairs	Neil Pierre
Department of Global Communications	Maher Nasser
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Peacebuilding Support Office	Awa Dabo
Development Coordination Office	Marta Cali
Executive Office of the Secretary-General	Michelle Gyles- McDonnough
	Lara Blanco
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	Hansjoerg Strohmeyer
	Murad Jeridi

<i>Entity</i>	<i>Name</i>
Office for Disarmament Affairs	Fiona Simpson
	Charles Ovink
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	Rio Hada
Regional commissions	Thilmeeza Hussain
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	Sujit Mohanty
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	Fedor Klimchuk
United Nations Children's Fund	Vidhya Ganesh
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	Juan Jose Martinez Badillo
United Nations Development Programme	Marcos Neto
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Gabriela Ramos (Co-Chair, Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence)
	Zazie Schafer
	Clare Stark (Inter-Agency Working Group on Artificial Intelligence)
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	Aparna Mehrotra
United Nations Environment Programme	Ligia Noronha
	Sally Golestan Ridwan
	Isabella Marras
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat	Simon Stiell
	Daniele Violetti
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	Edlam Abera Yemeru
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	Ralf Bredel
United Nations Office for Project Services	Dionyssia Geka
United Nations Population Fund	Diene Keita
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	Natalie Boucly
United Nations University	David Passarelli
Universal Postal Union	Yana Brugier
World Bank Group	Farhad Peikar
World Food Programme	Valerie Guarnieri

<i>Entity</i>	<i>Name</i>
World Health Organization	Werner H. Obermeyer
World Intellectual Property Organization	Ola Zahran
World Meteorological Organization	Laura Paterson

Guests

<i>Entity</i>	<i>Name</i>
Office of the Special Adviser on Climate Action and Just Transition	Selwin Hart
	Arun Jacob
Office of the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement	Robert Piper
	Greta Zeender
	Rekha Menon
UN-Water	Leanne Burney

United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination secretariat

Maike Jansen

Remo Lalli

Federica Pietracci

Cheryl Stafford

Li Zhou

Florian Wintermeyer

Marta Lorenzo Fernandez

Fabienne Fon Sing