

# Note on Composition & Selection of the Facilitation Group

## July 2018

### 1. Overview

#### Remit of Facilitation Group Members:

- Keep an overview of the strategic plan to help ensure decisions agreed by the Assembly are implemented at regional and global levels.
- Advise/support the Coordination Team and Working Groups on their priorities and engagement strategies – identifying linkages and any conflicts, to help ensure coherence
- Actively seek and identify opportunities for engagement in external events and partner projects to build the platform's profile – including horizon scanning for future opportunities.
- Represent the platform in national, regional and international meetings and other forums related to the initiative as appropriate.
- Support the Coordination Team in ensuring financial sustainability of the platform's work.
- Sign off joint communications products and materials – those that are made for the use of the whole platform by all participants, not co-branded products - for immediate needs in-between Platform Assemblies (when timelines don't allow for assembly decisions).

As set out in the agreed Governance Document, the Global Facilitation Group is made up of 25 members, formed of:

- 2 members per region (seeking balanced gender representation)
- 4 global networks which led the formation phase
- 7 constituency based representatives to ensure overall global balance & diversity

The following guiding principles are also included:

- Candidates will be elected for a term of maximum 2 years (with the possibility of 1 renewal). If one of the representatives was to desist during his/her term, a separate election or nomination process (as appropriate) just for the replacement of this person will be set up for the selection of a representative for a full term.
- In order to ensure continuity and to avoid a situation where too many Facilitation Group representatives were to change at any given time, further modalities may be agreed as needed.
- The Global Facilitation Group will be accountable to the Assembly, and will report back on an annual basis.

The first term of office ran from July 2016 until July 2018, those sitting members of the FG may nominate themselves for a second term.

## **2. Facilitation Group member categories**

### **Regional FG members**

The process of election for Regional FG members has been set out as follows:

- Selection process to take place at regional level, guided by existing regional platforms, the regional platforms are:
  1. Africa- Africa CSO Working Group on Sustainable Development
  2. MENA region- Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)
  3. Latin America and the Caribbean- Mesa de Articulación
  4. Asia- Asia Platform for Sustainable Development (APSD)
  5. Pacific- Pacific Islands Association of Non-governmental Organisations (PIANGO)
  6. Europe- SDG Watch Europe
  7. North America- no regional platform
- Open call for region, guided by Nomination & Election Committee (NEC) to shepherd the process to ensure engagement & nominations
- 2 seats- 1male/1 female. 1 seat to be representing the existing regional network; 1 seat to be open to key activists/wider informal network from the region
- The outgoing Facilitation Group, with support of the Global Coordinator will select a Nomination & Election Committee to support the election process in a neutral, open and transparent way.
- Nominations will be open and free, with basic details of candidates published for others to see.
- If there are numerous candidates, there will be an election within the region

### **Global thematic constituencies:**

The four founding global networks each nominate one representative, they are:

1. CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation
2. Forus (formerly IFP, International Forum of NGO Platforms)
3. GCAP – Global Call to Action against Poverty
4. CAN – Climate Action Network International

In 2016 a ‘Constituencies Working Group’ was created by the FG to identify representatives from the following broader key communities:

1. Women’s organisations
2. Youth organisations
3. Older people
4. Trade Unions
5. Indigenous Peoples
6. Persons with Disabilities
7. Social Movements or rural environmental groups

A number of constituency partners joined key meetings in 2016-2018 but they have not formally joined the Facilitation Group. There will be an open call for these seats to be filled for 2018-2020.

### **3. 2018 Election Process**

#### **a) Formation and Role of a Nomination and Election Committee - NEC**

It is proposed, as in 2016, to form a Nomination and Election Committee with up to seven members from all agreed seven regions. The NEC members will be formed of people with experience in global processes and there should be gender balance in the Committee.

Members of the NEC are not eligible for nomination to the Facilitation Group.

The Nomination and Election Committee members will be nominated and approved by the outgoing Facilitation Group, with the support of the Global Coordinator.

#### **b) Nomination of Facilitation Group Members**

##### **For Regional Representatives (14):**

Each one of the seven regions will nominate one representative from the platform members and will elect one representative from key activists/wider informal networks from the region. The process for nomination is decided in the region. However, certain rules shall be followed:

- Existing regional networks, which are part of A4SD shall coordinate the process.
- An open process of election for the second seat will follow the same process as the Constituency Groups (below)
- All regional members will have a vote for the elected seat
- To achieve gender balance, at least one of the nominees must be a female candidate

##### **For the Founding Networks (4):**

- The four founding networks will nominate their representatives in an internal process and inform their names, according to the timeline (below).
- The composition of the founding networks representatives should be gender and regionally balanced as much as possible.

##### **For Constituency Groups (7):**

**It is proposed to move towards an open call for nominations**

- A call for nominations will be sent to all registered members of Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD)
- All nominees are requested to write a letter of intent and a brief biography (of up to 300 words). They should also identify which constituency group(s) they aim to represent and any process that was followed to be indicated as a representative of this group.
- All nominees must agree to the core documents of A4SD and commit (through signed document) to give, at least, 8-12 hours a month to attend one

call/meeting per month, react to emails on a regular basis and to support the plans of actions.

- The Nomination & Election Committee will shortlist up to 4 candidates for each constituency according to criteria on suitable experience, based on advice from the relevant constituency platform
- The final list of candidates and their biographies will be circulated to all A4SD members and an online poll will be conducted, where each member will have one choice for each constituency
- The election process will be carried out in an open and transparent way.