**Minutes for the SDGs National Task Force Meeting held on 19th May 2021 Office of the Prime Minister, 5th Floor, Boardroom**

**Agenda:**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Communication from the Chair
3. Review of minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising.
4. Progress Report from TWGs
5. Way forward

**Members Present**

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| SN | Name | Designation  | Office | Email | Contact  |
| 1 | James Collins Dombo | Acting Permanent Secretary | OPM | jamesdombo@yahoo.com  | 0772508938 |
| 2 | Joses K. Tegyeza | Commissioner Strategic Coordination and Implementation | OPM | josesucd@yahoo.com  | 077277308 |
| 3 | Dr.Albert Byamugisha | Senior Technical Adviser/SDG | SDG Secretariat | abyamugisha@gmail.com  | 0772401732 |
| 4 | Winner Jeannette | Economic Analyst | UN RCO | Jeannette.winner@gmail.com  | 0750650788 |
| 5 | Francis Wasswa | National Economist | UNDP | Francis.wasswa@undp.com | 0759934886 |
| 6 | Pascal Byarugaba | M&E Specialist | OPM | Bpascal7711@gmail.com | 0773262556 |
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| 12 | Fredrick Twesiime Tabure | Commissioner | MOFPED | Fred.twesiime@finance.go.ug | 041707183 |
| 13 | Jackline Arineitwe | Adm | SDG Secretariat | Jackie.arineitwe@yahoo.com | 0782869331 |
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| MINUTES AND DISCUSSION | ACTION BY |
| **Min. 01/SDG NTF/ May 2021: Opening Prayer**The meeting started with a prayer led by the Programmes Assistant , SDG Secretariat , Office of the Prime Minister, Ms. Sarah Namutebi  | All to Note |
| **Min 02/SDG NTF/ May 2021: Communication from the Chairperson**Mr. James Collins Dombo the Acting Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister,1. The Chair started the meeting with the agenda for adoption/ modifications. The agenda was adopted.
2. He welcomed members to the SDG National Task Force meeting which was focusing on discussing the progress reports by the Technical Working Groups and adopting strategies for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. The chair extended his gratitude to all members who attended the meeting physically and online and all partners in ensuring that Uganda is on track to meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
4. He gave a recap of the last quarterly National Taskforce meeting held in February 2021 where the draft report on evaluation of the SDG Coordination Framework and the development of the new roadmap 2021/2025 was discussed. The chair revealed that the Government greatly appreciates the financial support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) towards the evaluation of the SDG Coordination Framework and the development of the new roadmap 2021/2025.
5. The chair further highlighted that the new National SDG Roadmap, that was to be launched, will be a huge step towards accelerating the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. Since 2016, due to the great leadership of Government and participation of citizens, partners and all stakeholders, significant progress has been achieved in translating the 2030 Agenda into action.
6. He commended the SDG Secretariat in the Office of the Prime Minister for the untiring and vibrant role that the team plays in coordinating the implementation of the SDGs. He thanked Dr. Albert Byamugisha for offering the leadership and technical guidance and Mr. Joses K Tegyeza, Commissioner Strategic Coordination and Implementation for giving overall framework within which SDG operates. This included revitalizing the Technical Working Groups, who are the backbone of SDG implementation in Uganda, and indeed, a core part of the National Coordination Framework.
7. The chair asked members to look out keenly for the great opportunities that lie ahead and also frankly discuss strategies on how to manage the various tremendous challenges that are likely to be met along the way in this Decade of Action. He pledged that the Government, will benchmark on what has worked and what has not, to forge an iterative way forward and develop appropriate policies that offer greater assurance of success.
8. He revealed that, the Government of Uganda remains committed to achieving the SDGs in an effective and timely manner, through coordination and consolidation of the efforts of all partners and stakeholders, including Ministries, Departments, agencies, local governments, as well as all non- state actors including civil society organizations, private sector, the youth, women, elderly and people with disabilities in implementing, monitoring, tracking and reporting on the SDGs. He thanked the Focal Minister for SDGs ***Hon. Mary Karooro Okurut*** in absentia who played a big role to ensure movement in framework of overall Government setting.
9. The Chair then declared the quarterly National SDG Task Force meeting open and called upon everyone to deliberate openly.
10. He requested members to review the previous meeting minutes and matters that arose.
 | All to Note |
| **Min 03/SDG NTF / May 2021: Review of Previous meeting minutes** Minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and approved as a true record of what transpired. **Actions that arose from SDG National Task Force Meeting on 9th February 2021 were completed. These included;**1. Compilation of comments raised from other key stakeholders
2. Revisited the draft report and addressed comments raised accordingly
3. Submitted the revised report

**Comments**1. It was noted that mapping out thematic areas to Technical Working Group to identify the TWG was redundant. In response, it was highlighted that the consultant underlined it and proposals were made with actions to be taken. The main reason was that some working groups were not facilitated. It was thus agreed that members look at the final draft and make comments before final printing of the Road Map.
2. UNDP informed the members that they would edit, design and print 2000 copies and support in the launch of the Road Map.
 | All to Note |
| **Min 04/ SDG NTF/ May 2021 : Presentation of the Progress Report**A presentation on Progress on the SDG Coordination Framework was done by Pascal Byarugaba, the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, SDG Secretariat. **Introduction**The report highlighted the progress of TWGs and the SDG Secretariat. The five TWGs include; Planning and Mainstreaming, Data, Financing for SDGs, Coordination and Communication TWGs.**Progress made by Technical Working Groups**1. **Data TWG: Progress 2020-2021**
2. Updated the national SDG Indicator framework raising the number of indicators with data from 45 to 92 indicators. Of the total, 52 meet the minimum requirement of the SDG Global Metadata whereas 40 are National Proxies
3. Conducted three SDG Data TWG Meetings (One physical and two virtual) which deliberated on progress and key emerging issues during the quarters
4. Validated the National SDG Progress report that informed the 2020 VNR for Uganda
5. Developed an action plan for the production of more Tier I and II SDG indicators
6. Completed integration of the 201 national SDG indicators into the NSI framework under review
7. Provided technical support to integration of the SDG indicators under the 18 NDP III Programmes outcome indicators
8. UBOS in collaboration with UNDP and the SDG Secretariat finalized and launched the Data Gap Analysis Report for SDG 16
9. Developed a 5 year (2021-2025) road map with strategies for improving data production for SDG Tier I and II indicators
10. Compiled the SDG Indicators Metadata Hand Book--the handbook comprising of the metadata for both indicators that meet the global metadata requirements and those that are national proxies
11. Developed the Citizen Generated Data (CGD) tool kit aimed at supporting the CSOs and NGOs produce sound/quality statistics & deliberately CSOs and NGOs in the PNSD III.

**Challenges**1. Low uptake of key statistics and indicators available for SDG monitoring and reporting due to limited dissemination and publication
2. Limited statistics personnel in MDAs and Local Governments
3. Limited disaggregation of data and small area statistics
4. Weak administrative data production systems

**Recommendations** 1. Hold regular engagement with the SDG Data TWG,
2. Need to undertake capacity building initiatives for MDAs and LGs to compile administrative data including in the use of nontraditional data sources
3. Need to mainstream statistics production in MDAs

**Planned Priorities**1. Increasing the SDG indicators with available data points from 92 to 120, and update the Open Data Platform for SDGs with available data series
2. Collaborating with UNCDF to support selected LGs strengthen their administrative data production for reporting on selected SDG indicators at district level
3. **Communication and Popularization TWG**
4. The TWG is responsible for ensuring that the SDGs are publicized, known and owned by every citizen, in their individual and other capacities. The quarterly meeting successfully convened on 9 February 2021.
5. The work of this TWG is guided by a Communication and Popularization Strategy which was developed to guide all SDG communication and advocacy activities.
6. This includes outreach events and media campaigns.
7. Quarterly meetings mainly focusing on review of implementation of the strategy in the preceding quarter and planning for the coming quarters. The strategy might be refined with guidance from the new National SDG Roadmap.
8. **Planning and Mainstreaming TWG : Progress 2020-2021**
9. Coordinated the development process of the Integrated Sustainable Development Goals (iSDG) model report: <http://www.npa.go.ug/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Uganda-SDG-REPORT-2019.pdf>
10. Supported HLGs to integrate SDGs into the development plans
11. SDG indicators have been integrated in the NDPIII Results and Reporting Framework (RRF): In total, the RRF has 4,472 indicators
12. The indicator matrix will be used in assessing alignment of the budget to implementing the SDGs for the Certificate of Compliance

**Action**:1. Need to harmonize with the SDG Indicator Matrix. i.e the 372 (Planning SDG Indicators), 243 (Global indicators), and 92 (UBOS)
2. Coordinate with OPM, UBOS and Ministry of Finance to complete target setting for all indicators including for SDG

**Progress by the SDG Secretariat**1. Localization and mapping of SDG champions in local Governments. The Secretariat had visited 75 district Local Governments in all regions of Uganda

**Key activities were;*** Orienting the district leadership (technical +political) on the SDGs and Uganda’s progress on the SDGs
* Disseminating of SDG materials VNR report, SDG indicator matrix, SDG posters and flyers among others
* Mapping out champions for SDGs to be the focal point persons for SDGs in Local Government

**Key outputs**1. A list of district SDG focal persons was in place
2. Disseminated SDG materials in 75 districts leading to a better appreciation of the SDGs and the role of Districts in SDG implementation
3. Rolled out Voluntary Local Reviews in Ngora, Nebbi, Bugiri, Sheema, Kyotera, Kitagwenda and Sironko.
4. Launched the Private Sector SDG Platform
5. Partnered with World Vision and organized the National Children’s SDGs Symposium that took place on 20th April 2021 under the theme **“*The place of children in SDGs implementation and monitoring”***
6. Reviewed the SDG Coordination framework 2016 and the SDG Road map 2018-2020 and developed the New SDG Roadmap 2021-2025
7. SDG Evaluation report completed
8. Participated in the establishment of the national Sustainable Development Solutions Network at Makerere University
9. Development of the draft SDG Localization manual to support different actors in SDG Localization. This will be shared with stakeholders for review and input before it is pretested in Local Governments.

**The Youth Coalition for SDGs** The Youth Coalition for SDGs, under the auspices of the SDG Secretariat, brings together more than 30 youth-led organizations and companies, focusing on: Human Capital Development, Climate Action and Environmental Conservation, Sports for Development, Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, and Entrepreneurship and Innovation. To date, some activities included: 1. Engagement with various groups, including at the highest Government levels, to share views & engage in SDGs implementation
2. One Million SDG Solutions Innovation Challenge
3. Outreach activities to raise awareness e.g. through flash mobs across the country
4. Organization of events around international days to raise community awareness on SDGs
5. Participation in radio and media talk shows

**Planned Activities**1. Launch of the SDG Secretariat Hub that was established to provide a coordination and implementation framework for SDGs in Uganda. Scheduled for 15th September, 2021
2. Organizing a High Level National Minorities SDGs Symposium aimed at promoting the Inclusion of Ethnic Minority and Indigenous Peoples into Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting in Uganda. Scheduled for 11th November, 2021
3. Production of the Annual SDG Progress: The Outlook was being developed
4. SDG Data Technical Working Group Retreat with support from UN Women
5. Training in SDG Data Analytics anddeveloping indicator indices and dashboards
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| **Min 05/ SDG NTF/ May 2021 : Comments and reactions arising from Presentation of the Progress Report**The Commissioner Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Mr. Fredrick Twesiime Tabure highlighted the progress made by the Financing and Mainstreaming SDGs TWG Group as follows;***Achievements:*** 1. Worked with Ministry of Finance on implementation of the GBS to link expenditure and outcome
2. Followed up on sectors and agencies on allocation of resources for SDGs.
3. Strengthened collaborations with partners in order to finance programs targeting SDGs.
4. Improved tax administration, expenditure efficiency and increase tax base.
5. Strengthened domestic revenue mobilization
6. An integrated national framework with four components that include assessment of all financing resources was developed by MoFPED with support from UNDP. Ministry of Finance completed the development financing assessment in 2019 with support from UNDP and are in process of finalizing the Public Financing Strategy. UN agencies have been able to mobilize two million USD for support of activities such as Certificate of compliance, feasibility studies among others. The project started in October 2020 which was slowed down due to COVID. A work plan is being finalized so that activities begin. Other opportunities noted were Continental Free Trade Area which is accelerating implementation of SDGs in Uganda. UNDP has also mobilized 1.5 million USD to support Uganda’s readiness participate in Continental Free Trade Area working with Ministry of Trade.
7. It was highlighted that there was no ownership of issues raised since progress was reported without the TWG meeting to give input.

***Challenges:*** 1. Low Domestic Revenue
2. Implementation of projects (finances lying idle)
3. Low finances
4. Reduction in external financing
5. Budget allocation
6. Duplication of efforts in Government
7. Realign sector and budget

**As a way forward the following were agreed on:** 1. TWG have to follow the Road Map and should align their reports to SDG implementation.
2. The TWG should set targets and activities to be reported on in the next SDG National Task Force meeting.
3. All TWG to meet quarterly, with coordination team to attend and report after the meeting.
4. As the SDG secretariat is formulating a list of focal persons in each district, they were advised to make use of the Planners’ Forum for Government and National planners.
5. There is need to extensively share the localization manual to members for review? The localization manual is in process of final edits and then will be pre-tested before it can be circulated to the TWG for review.
6. Status of recommendations that came out of the second VNR report. What implementations have been done? The Secretariat was tasked to report on the six recommendations in the next NTF meeting.
7. To prepare the SDG Progress report that will be reported on during the High Level Political Forum side events.
8. Ensuring continuity, follow-up, actions and implantation after the launches, symposiums and any other big events concerning implementation of the SDGs.
 | All to Note |
| **Min 06/ SDG NTF/ May 2021 Action Plan** **The National Task Force meeting agreed on the following actions**1. TWG to expand on number of indicators to be reported on.
2. TWG to have activities for next quarter to be reported on in the next meeting.
3. The Road Map to be edited, designed and printed by UNDP.
4. Invite the TWGs to the launch of the SDG Secretariat
5. Organize a High Level National Minorities SDGs Symposium
6. Training in SDG Data Analytics and develop indicator indices and dashboards
7. Six recommendations of the VLR reports to be reported on.
8. Prepare SDG Progress report that will be reported on.
 | All to Note |
| Signed…………………………………………………Mr. James Collins DomboActing Permanent Secretary, Office of Prime Minister (Chairperson) Date: 19th May 2021 | Signed………………………………………………Mr. Pascal ByarugabaMonitoring and Evaluation Specialist, SDG Secretariat (Secretary)Date: 19th May 2021 |

**Actions that arose from the SDG National Task Force Meeting held, 19th May 2021**

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| **S/N** | **Actions** | **Timeline** | **Actor**  |  **Status** |
| 1. | TWG to expand on number of indicators to be reported on | November, 2021 | OPM, CSISDG Secretariat, M & E  | * With financial support from UN Women, the SDG Data TWG coordinated by UBOS and the SDG Secretariat held data review retreats working with MDAs.
* The SDG indicator matrix was reviewed and updated with additional 24 indicators increasing from 92 to 116 u SDG indicators with data points
*
* Follow up meetings are still ongoing and the indicators with data points are projected to increase to about 125 by end of December, 2021
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| 2. | TWG to have activities for next quarter to be reported on in the next meeting. | November 2021 | OPM, SDG Secretariat  | * Developed and circulated output calendars for all TWGS to guide them in key strategic activities to be undertaken by the end of the first two years of the SDG Roadmap
* Three (3) quarterly review meetings have been organized for the TWGs including for Communication & Popularization, Data and Planning and Mainstreaming. The reports from the TWGs will be presented during today’s meeting.
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| 3. | The new SDG Road Map to be edited, designed and printed by UNDP | September 2021 | SDG Secretariat | * With support from UNDP, the Government finalized the review of the SDG Roadmap (2018-2020) and the National SDG Coordination Framework 2016
* The new National SDG Roadmap (2020/21 – 2024/25) and the SDG Secretariat were launched on September 15th 2021 by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister on September 15, 2021.
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| **S/N** | **Actions** | **Timeline** | **Actor**  |  **Status** |
| 5. | Organize a High Level National Minorities SDGs Symposium | June, 2021 | SDG Secretariat | * The symposium on Ethnic Minority and Indigenous Peoples Dialogue took place on 11th November 2021 under the Theme “***‘’Leaving no one behind, examining the inclusion of ethnic minority and indigenous peoples in the implementation, monitoring and reporting on SDGs in Uganda’’***
* Participants highlighted key issues that affect the ethnic minorities in regards to service delivery all which are linked on SDGs. The dialogue came up with the number of recommendations especially concerning targeted monitoring and reporting through statistics on ethnic minorities by UBOS which will improve on their inclusion in the national Planning processes. .
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| 6. | Training in SDG Data Analytics and develop indicator indices and dashboards  | December 2021 | SDG Secretariat | * The training on SDGs monitoring and reporting took place in May 2021
* The Monitoring and Reporting interface/page for Uganda has been designed with 201 indicators populated in the system
* The SDG Secretariat is still working with SDG Centre for Africa to finalize the output development process and updating the indicators with NDPIII targets .
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| 7. | To report on the progress of implementation of Six recommendations of the VNR report  | December 2021 | OPM, CSISDG Secretariat, M & E | * With support from the NGO Forum a consultant was hired to undertake an evaluation on the progress made in implementing the Six (6) VNR recommendations. This report has been circulated to members of the national M&E working group and other stakeholders.
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| 8. | The SDG Secretariat to make use of the Planners Forum | September 2021 | OPM and SDG Secretariat | * Orientation of district leadership on SDGs with active participation by the District Planners took place

Several field visits to Local Governments were undertaken in Eastern, Karamoja and Rwenzori regions. In all the districts visited, the Planning Units have been designated as the focal point offices on SDG related matters and a database of the planners has been created for ongoing engagement and communication of SDG activities. |
| 9. | * Development of the SDG localization Guidelines
 | * December 2021
 | * OPM and SDG Secretariat
 | * Terms of References for the consultant to support the process were developed.
* Discussions between OPM and UNDP to procure a Consultant to develop the guidelines are on-going.
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| 10. | * Production of the Annual SDG Progress Report
 | * July 2021
 | * OPM, SDG Secretariat
 | * The procurement of the Consultant to support this process is being finalized. We expect to have the first draft report before end of December, 2021
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