Strategic Foresight for the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Introduction to the format of the Strategic Foresight Café

UN-CSTD, 2014-2015 Inter-sessional Panel
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CONTENT

• Rationale, benefits and impacts of Strategic Foresight
• Purpose and Objectives of the Strategic Foresight Café
• Procedure of the Foresight Café exercise
FORESIGHT FEEDING INTO POLICY DESIGN

- Agenda-setting
- Policy definition
- Implementation
- Evaluation

FORESIGHT

- Legitimacy, transparency
- Understanding of changes
- New policy configurations
- Responsiveness of the system
- New ideas
- Visions
- Policy options

Learning
FORESIGHT FUNCTIONS FOR POLICY MAKING

1. **Informing policy** – generating insights regarding the dynamics of change, future challenges and options, along with new ideas, and transmitting them to policy-makers as inputs to policy design

2. **Facilitating policy implementation** – enhancing the capacity for change within a given policy field by building a common awareness of the current situation and future challenges

3. **Embedding participation in policy making** – facilitating the participation of civil society in the policy making process, thereby improving its transparency and legitimacy

4. **Supporting policy definition** – jointly translating outcomes from the collective process into specific options for policy design and implementation

5. **Reconfiguring the policy system** – new configurations of or linkages between policy making bodies in a way that the system becomes apt to address long-term challenges

6. **Symbolic function** – indicating to the public that policy is based on rational information (i.e. *evidence-based policy making*)
PURPOSE OF STRATEGIC FORESIGHT CAFÉ

• The purpose of the strategic foresight café is to provide participants of the CSTD inter-sessional panel with the opportunity to discuss key questions related to Theme 1 ‘Strategic Foresight for the Post-2015 Development Agenda’ in three thematic sessions.

• The foresight café is based on the World Café (2002) process, which is a creative yet simple methodology for hosting conversations around particular questions that matter to benefit from the ‘wisdom of the crowd’.
# PROCEDURE OF THE FORESIGHT CAFÉ EXERCISE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>15:00 Introduction to the strategic foresight café</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theme 1</td>
<td>15:15 Room 1, Room 2, Room 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theme 2</td>
<td>15:55 Room 2, Room 3, Room 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theme 3</td>
<td>16:35 Room 3, Room 1, Room 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wrap-up</td>
<td>17:15 Presentation of group findings by the chairpersons. Discussion of findings and suggestions to be addressed at the 18th Session of the CSTD, to be held in Geneva in May 2015</td>
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CSTD STRATEGIC FORESIGHT CAFÉ THEMES

• Theme 1 (Chair: Mr. Andrew Reynolds, USA) STI and ICT trends, implications for MDG/SDGs transition and post-2015 development agenda

• Theme 2 (Chair: H.E. Gisella Kopper Arguedas, Costa Rica) Sharing of national experiences and methodologies on foresight

• Theme 3 (Chair: Mr. A Min Tjoa, Austria) Regional and international collaboration in foresight
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM THE ISSUES PAPER

Thematic coverage:

• Relevance of technology trends identified in Section III of the Issues Paper
• Role of technology foresight exercises to improve our understanding of societal challenges, policy action and investment decisions
• Technology foresight as a tool to support the Post-2015 Development Agenda
• Technology foresight and the private sector
• Preparing the STEM workforce for future technologies
• Sharing experiences on national foresight exercises
• International cooperation and the role of the CSTD
## CSTD STRATEGIC FORESIGHT CAFÉ SPLIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room E.2070/72</td>
<td>Room E.2064/66</td>
<td>Room XVIII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1 ➔ T3 ➔ T2</td>
<td>T2 ➔ T1 ➔ T3</td>
<td>T3 ➔ T2 ➔ T1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Suggested countries:**
Cameroon, Central African Republic, Lesotho, China, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Bulgaria, Hungary, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Austria, Finland, France

**Suggested countries:**
Liberia, Mauritius, Nigeria, Japan, Oman, Philippines, Latvia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Germany, Malta, Portugal

**Suggested countries:**
Rwanda, Tanzania, Tunisia, Togo, Zambia, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Russian Federation, Mexico, Peru, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, USA

Chairpersons and facilitators rotate from one room to the other!