

## NGOCSD General Meeting Minutes:

Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 2014, 2-5PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor UN Church Center, 777 United Nations Plaza  
Submitted by Modou Cham, Secretary

### 2PM

Co-Chairs Margo LaZaro and Yvonne O'Neal welcomed everyone to the meeting and elucidated that this month's meeting is themed: "Looking Towards 2015 & Beyond: Collaborating to Achieve a Sustainable Future." They mentioned that in January we will have presentations on "The Emerging Frontiers in Agriculture." For February, we will have a meeting on "Eco-Tourism" and in March 2015, during CSW 59, we are considering a possible program with H.E. Ambassador Mac Donald, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Suriname to the United Nations and possibly H.E. Ambassador Kohona Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka. They also introduced member Bobby Andishmand who is now our WebMaster. He is a Youth Representative for Global Family and he is the Producer of the Take Two Film Festival.

Secretary Modou Cham gave his Report. Co-Chairs asked for a Motion to Accept the Secretary's report – All in Favor.

Treasurer Martha Kebalo gave her report – our balance as of December 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 was \$5,522.40 ~ Co-Chairs called for a Motion to Accept the Treasurer's Report – All in Favor.

### 2:30-3PM

Co-Chairs Margo and Yvonne introduced Professor Dr. Jan Dash, NGOCSD Adviser on Climate Change and his presentation was entitled "*From Lima to Paris: Can we get a Climate Agreement?*". He elucidated that the global warming forecast depends on human behaviors and now disasters are worse due to climate change: Increase conflicts (wars/national insecurity), water shortages, crop failures, intense fires, droughts, flooding, species extermination, extreme weather, rising sea levels, heat waves, precipitation changes, and economic and financial disruptions. Further he explained that the negotiation issues in Lima were on technology assistance, financial responsibilities, legal status (agreements vs. binding treaty) and reparations: loss and damage. Although there were some negotiation issues with a contentious process, the COP 20 outcome document "*Lima Call for Climate Action*", highlights progress towards a difficult Paris Accord with highly ambitious agendas to keep the goal of global warming below 2° C (1.5° C) and net-zero global GHG emissions by 2050. In addition Dr. Dash explained that there were not enough climate risk management international action consistent with increasingly serious climate impacts.

### 3-3:30PM

Margo and Yvonne welcomed our NGOCSD Adviser, H.E. Mr. Ib Petersen, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations. Ambassador Petersen is currently the Co-Chair of the Group of Friends of SE4ALL and Co-Facilitator for the intergovernmental consultations on the organizational modalities for the Post-2015 summit. Ambassador Petersen spoke about the Post-2015 political process and the Post-2015 Summit. He said that he was very happy, because NGOs were involved in assembling the 17 goals and 169 targets that are to be agreed upon during the 70th United Nations General Assembly in September 2015. Although, the SDGs framework are government consultations, delegations have made sure that civil society is present to share their contributions. The next steps of the Post-2015 political process is implementation and how we commit each other to follow up and making sure that the agreed goals are attained. Next, Ambassador Petersen explained that the importance of financing for development is crucial in making sure that all the goals and targets are met. On the Post-2015 Summit, Ambassador Petersen, explained that the month of September 2015 will be a very busy month, there will be a final discussion of the modalities and there will be an inclusion of all stakeholders, such as civil society. H.E. Mr. Ban Ki Moon's Synthesis Report proposes 6 Elements for the Post-2015 Agenda: dignity, people, prosperity, planet, justice, and partnership. He also mentioned that the 70<sup>th</sup> President of the General Assembly will be from Denmark. Members of the Policy & Strategy Group Juan Chebly & Alice Chen presented Ambassador Petersen with the

### 3:30-50PM – Panel Discussion

Margo and Yvonne welcomed the UN Millennium Campaign Team with the My World Project and the Policy and Strategy Group to the front to begin the Panel Discussion. Margo mentioned that she is proud to be a member of the PSG. The speakers were Mr. Juan Elias Chebly, Coordinator for the World We Want 2015 platform, Ms. Alice Chen, My World/World We Want 2015 project Consultant, Ms. Frances Simpon-Allen, Partnerships Consultant – Innovation and Technology on data driven advocacy at the United Nations Millennium Campaign, Mr. Papa Tiecoro Dembele, Research

and Support for the World We Want 2015 platform and Mr. Austin Schiano – Administrative Officer for My Green World campaign. Mr. Chebly explained that the UN Millennium Campaign is a division that was set up in response to the Millennium Declaration agreed and signed by 189 United Nations member states at the end of the September 2000 UN Summit. The Campaign’s purpose is to proliferate support to achieve the Millennium Development Goals from governments, civil society and media at a global, national and regional level. Next Mr. Chebly explained that although the MDGs were not inclusive enough, we now have the opportunity to build a more inclusive agenda and to make his point, Mr. Chebly quoted UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon, who said, “Let us build the most inclusive development agenda the world has ever seen”. Moreover, Mr. Chebly explained that the World We Want 2015 is an online platform aimed at finding out peoples’ views on sustainable development and visualizing proposed solutions to development related issues. He also spoke about The MY World campaign, in which he explained that it is the first United Nations global survey where millions of people worldwide have voted on 16 priorities they think are important to their lives. The 16 priorities are the following: protecting forests, rivers and oceans; equality between men and women; freedom from discrimination and persecution; protecting against crime and violence; reliable energy at home; an honest and responsive government; action taken on climate change; a good education; better healthcare; phone and internet access; better job opportunities; political freedoms; support for people who can’t work; affordable and nutritious food; access to clean water and sanitation; and better transport and roads. The campaign was developed to reach out to people worldwide, survey them and ask “what would make your life better?” MY World campaign has reached some of the most marginalized people in the world by using a combination of off-line, on-line, and mobile technologies. The synthesis and aggregation of online contributions will then be fed into the official post-2015 political process.

Ms. Simpson-Allen elucidated that they have taken advantage of the grass root partnerships and technology available during the development of the MDGs to make the SDGs process more inclusive. With more than 7 million votes from 194 countries taken from the MY World survey, we now know the priorities of men versus women, young versus old and rich versus poor. About 76% of the votes came from paper ballots while the remaining 24% came from votes on mobile phone and online. She praised NGOs for taking the lead in distributing ballots and collecting votes in the most marginalized communities’ worldwide. In ending her presentation, Ms. Simpson-Allen explained that the answers from the campaign, which represents the hopes and dreams of 1 in 1,000 people on earth, have made it possible to build a dataset explaining the needs of people around the world. Mostly importantly, the four main issues: a good education, better health care, better job opportunities, and an honest and responsive government, have stayed the same. The next step is to share their answers with policy makers at all levels and once there is a consensus on the SDGs, they will disseminate all the goals and targets to the 7 billion people around the world.

Next, Mr. Schiano spoke about the My Green World campaign and their goal is to provide citizens with a voice on the issue of climate change. Perceptions data will be given to world leaders and governments to help them support their negotiations on climate change solutions. The voting platform aims to support transparency and accountability on the road to COP 21 in Paris. Furthermore he explained that during the Roundtable Discussion on Climate Justice in Practice at the 65th UN DPI NGO Conference, Daniel Thomas of the Secretary General’s Climate Change Support Team announced the MY Green World Survey on behalf of UNMC. Mr. Thomas also announced that the launch of the voting platform would take place during the Climate Summit with support from the Secretary General’s Climate Support Team.

The last two speakers were Ms. Chen and Mr. Dembele and they explained that there have been several launches that have occurred in different cities worldwide, notably in Chinese, Mexican and French cities and they have been receiving pictures and information about the events, for example, the launch of the International Week of Solidarity. They have also received pictures from the MY World promotion activities and ballot voting. Currently there are MY World blogs under development in Spanish and French to cater to those audiences. There are also tool kits for partners available at “myworldtoolkits.com” and they are available in Chinese, Spanish and French. Furthermore, all the data that are collected on the World We Want website and the MY World campaign are fed in to the official Post-2015 political process – which is leading to the Post-2015 Summit in September 2015. The goal is to answer the call of the UN Secretary General, H.E. Ban Ki Moon, who said that “Let us build the most inclusive development agenda the world has ever seen”.

Q&A followed the presentations.

Co-Chairs Margo and Yvonne encouraged everyone to join our NGOCS & wished all a Happy Holiday Season:

5:00pm – Meeting Adjourned

