



GLOBAL AGENDA 2020-2030

CONSULTATION AND DECISION PROCESS

VISION

IASSW, ICSW and IFSW have agreed to relaunch the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development for the decade 2020-2030 at their global conferences in June/July 2020.

There will be a global consultation offering stakeholders the opportunity to help shape the Global Agenda. Each organisation will be responsible for the consultation with its own members and constituency. The global conferences in Rimini and Calgary will have the opportunity to shape the Global Agenda 2020-2030.

The process will include reflection on and evaluation of the Global Agenda 2010-2020 alongside a consultation to define the core pillars of the future Agenda.

A Global Agenda Taskforce will co-ordinate the process.

Decisions about the Global Agenda are ultimately the responsibility of the formal decision making structures in each of the global bodies. For the sake of clarity, it is confirmed that the conferences are advisory and not decision-making.

GLOBAL AGENDA CO-ORDINATOR

David N Jones is the Global Agenda Co-ordinator on behalf of the three organisations until the end of the Calgary conference 2020. Abye Tassé will then take over as the Co-ordinator on behalf of the three organisations and be fully involved in the evaluation and consultation processes during 2019 and 2020.

TASK FORCE

The Global Agenda Taskforce will oversee evaluation of the Global Agenda 2010-2030, develop consultation material on the 2020 Agenda, review responses and develop themes/pillars for 2020-2030 to be presented to the two conferences.

The Taskforce will be established with two representatives from each of the three organisations. The Taskforce will not include the Presidents of the three global bodies who will act in a governance role to the process and ensure the effective involvement of the formal decision making structures of each organisation.

David N Jones as Global Agenda Coordinator will ensure the effective functioning of the process. Abye Tassé as the incoming Global Agenda Co-ordinator from 2020 will be involved throughout. They are members of the Taskforce ex officio and not representatives of any organisation.



The Taskforce will work virtually (by email, Skype and other digital communication) as there is no budget for a meeting.

The Taskforce will draft proposed Agenda 'headlines', recognising that further work may be required at a later stage to elaborate and develop the concepts. The document will be presented first to the global agenda partners for comment and amendment (allowing a reasonable time for the process) and then presented at the Rimini and Calgary conferences on the authority of the global bodies. The Calgary conference will be informed of any revisions proposed as a result of consultations at the conference in Rimini.

The Taskforce is given authority to make decisions about revisions to the proposed Global Agenda during the conferences on behalf of the Boards, in consultation with the Presidents.

A speedy process will be established after the conference to finalise any remaining issues and to ensure that the outcome is seen as balanced, reflecting the perspectives and governance processes of all three organisations and both global conferences.

The final outcome will be published by 1 September 2020 at the latest. A formal statement on the outcome will be agreed by the global organisations to be published after the Rimini and Calgary conferences, taking account of the need for an 'immediate' social media profile.

EVALUATION

The Global Agenda Taskforce will oversee the evaluation of the Global Agenda process 2010-2020.

The core document for the evaluation is '*The Global Agenda for Social Work and Social development: Commitments to Action*'.

David Jones will draft a process for evaluation, involving former leaders from the three organisations who had been involved in the Global Agenda, selected UN officials and others, and circulate to the Tripartite group for consideration.

David Jones will propose criteria for the evaluation to be agreed by the three organisations.

The outcome of the evaluation will be made available to members of the three organisations.

CONSULTATION ON THE GLOBAL AGENDA 2020-2030

There will be an open consultation about the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development 2020-2030 using the internal processes of each organisation for consultation with its members and stakeholders, regional conferences, social media and other processes as appropriate.

Each organisation is responsible for undertaking consultations with its own members and constituency.



The Taskforce has authority to organise and shape the consultation, within the limited budget agreed by the global organisations.

The Taskforce will consider whether to commission and publish working papers to inform the consultation, as happened before the 2010 conference.

The Taskforce has authority to consult authoritative individuals and organisations to help shape the process and proposals.

The outcome will be a '**headlines document**' to be presented to the global bodies for approval in good time before the global conferences in 2020.

The intention is to develop a limited number of themes or 'pillars' which can serve as a focus for advocacy and campaigning and as themes for World Social Work Days. The Global Agenda must:

- Demonstrate integrated themes/pillars but also be able to be articulated as distinct themes for World Social Work Days and other campaigns;
- be sufficiently flexible to take account of emerging and changing events and issues;
- be distinctive for social work and social development whilst showing a link to the Sustainable Development Goals;
- have global relevance whilst taking account of regional concerns;
- give emphasis to the knowledge and skills needed for social work and social development practice, and take account of specialist areas of practice, alongside global social policy themes;
- emphasise the importance of education and training and the need for an effective and ethical working environment as cross-cutting themes (as was the case in the 2010-2020 Agenda);
- help to articulate effective solutions to social challenges through effective social work and social development practice;
- make sense to the wider public and other audiences as well as the social work and social development professions.

Issues to consider include (but are not limited to):

- Celebrating the achievements of social work and social development since the 1928 conferences, whilst acknowledging past mistakes and poor practice;
- Promoting equity and inclusion (especially in relation to gender);
- Illustrating connections between macro (policy) and micro (direct work) practice;
- Promoting a holistic approach to the 'person in environment';
- Taking account of social dislocation (including migration) as a result of climate change;
- Exploring understanding of identity and the response to feelings of 'threat' and 'anxiety' experienced by majority populations, in the context of the rise of 'populism';
- The findings of the Global Agenda process 2010-2020.

David N Jones
Global Agenda Co-ordinator
8 March 2019