

# **A first overview on results of Rio+20**

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# **1. A first overview of results of Rio + 20**

- a. Overarching elements**
- b. Green Economy in context of SD and PE**
- c. International Framework Sustainable Development**
- d. Framework for action including SDGs**
- e. Means of implementation**

# **2. Many work streams created/confirmed by Rio**

- a. New processes**
- b. Reinforcement of already ongoing processes**

# **3. Some personal evaluations**

# **4. Some possible elements for debate on the EU post Rio**

# 1. Overview of Rio results

## a. Overarching elements

- 3 overarching principles of Jburg confirmed but SCP agreed language modified
- Strong social dimension in part I, but also throughout the text
- § 39 recognition of Rights of Nature
- §43 and many others on public participation
- § 47 on corporate sustainability reporting=> «group of friends»

## **b. Green economy in context SD and PE**

- Good opening paragraph (and in line UNEP-definition of GE)
- § 58 as placeholder/parking for the misgivings on GE
- Correct reference § 61 to changing unsustainable patterns CP
- Rather vague § 66 on role of UN system but no impediment
- Most importantly : work can start/continue right here and now

## c. International Framework for Sustainable Developm

- General Assembly and ECOSOC roles
- Creation of the new High Level Platform
- Strengthening and upgrading of UNEP
- Universal membership+«other means to strengthen its governance »
- Increase from UN regular budget
- **Loss of UNEP-sub§ on synergies with MEAs!!!**
- Strong emphasis on science/policy interface incl GEO process
- Strong subchapter regional, national, subnational, local level
- But sliding backwards on NSDSs in § 98
- Delivering as One in § 95, risk for parallelism

## d. Framework for action including SDGs

- Food security
- Water and sanitation including role of ecosystems
- SE4ALL, **but only « noting » SG initiative**  
**and loss of \$ on phase out of fossil fuels**
- Sustainable Cities, **but without reference to UNEP work**
- Full employment, decent work for all, social protection floors
- Strong oceans subchapter
- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Chemicals and waste
- Weak text on SCP (§226) containing a **new obstacle!!!**
- Reproductive rights under gender : **backtracking !!!**

## **e. Means of implementation**

- Reconfirmation of ODA (0,7% to dC and 0,15-0,20 to LdCs)
- Good § 266 on anti – corruption policies
- Traditional trade chapter including some language subsidies
- Registry of commitments (§283)

## **2. The many work streams ahead**

### **a. New processes**

- SDGs / MDGs
- Creation High Level Forum via UNGA
- Strengthening /upgrading UNEP via UNGA 2012
- Increase regular UN budget to UNEP via UNGA 2013
- Designation of UN body for SCP
- Friends of § 47 on Corporate Sustainability Reporting
- Global Strategy for youth employment demanded in § 24
- GDP work via UN Statistical Commission



## **b. Already ongoing processes reinforced**

- Green economy work
  - incl « **PAGE** » (UNEP's programme of action on Green Economy)
- SE4ALL work
  - incl also **Renewable Energy Performance Platform**
- Cities work inter alia by UNEP
- Biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction
- Preparations third SIDs conference in 2014

### 3. Some personal evaluations

- Rio result is much more than negotiated outcome but multilayered
- Negotiated outcome reflects current state of multilateral relations
- Only correct judgment of the text : very uneven between + and –
- Mandate in 64/236 forgotten or misunderstood
- Many new processes created need an urgent political attention
- All these go beyond env silo => coordination will make or break f-up
- Premature end of negotiations had positive side effect for IMPLEM
- Our political narrative must include good result social dimension
- Importance in my view of last § (registry voluntary commitments)
- EU was not central player, contrary to Cancun and Durban

## 4. Some possible elements for debate on the EU post Rio

- Impact on EU internal instruments to be taken up rapidly  
(Barroso 2020 Strategy to be reviewed, 7° EAP, MFF 2014 – 2020)
- Challenge for EU to influence UNGA  
(ECOSOC review under 61/16, HLForum, UNEP univ membership,  
increased UN regular budget contrib to UNEP)
- And how about a future « EU »-contribution to UNEP?