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Report of the field visit of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS to Tajikistan, 24 to 30 June 2013

I. Introduction

1. A delegation of six representatives of Member States of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS undertook a field visit to Tajikistan from 24 to 30 June 2013. The delegation was led by the Deputy Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations. The delegation was accompanied by the Secretary of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board. The list of participants is contained in the annex.

2. The purpose of the field visit was to enable the members of the delegation to witness first-hand the operations and programmes of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS at the country level and to gain insight into the contributions the organizations are making and the challenges they face in assisting Tajikistan in its efforts to attain national development goals. The visit was expected to also provide opportunities to gain close insights into United Nations system-wide issues such as inter-agency collaboration and coordination, joint programming, donor coordination and partnerships with civil society, the private sector and multilateral and bilateral agencies.

3. The delegation met with high-level authorities of the country, including the Speaker of the Parliament, sectoral ministers and vice-ministers of the Government of Tajikistan, district authorities and officials, members of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), multilateral and bilateral development partners and representatives of civil society and non-governmental organizations. The delegation also had the opportunity to visit project sites in the Vakhdat, Ayni, Shaartuz and Kumsangir districts.

4. The delegation expresses its deep appreciation to the Government of Tajikistan for the opportunity to carry out this mission and for facilitating the programme. Appreciation is likewise extended to the United Nations Resident Coordinator and the UNCT for organizing a comprehensive, well-prepared programme and for making all the necessary arrangements. The delegation also wishes to thank the UNFPA Representative in Uzbekistan/Country Director for Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, and all the country staff of UNDP, UNFPA and the Office of the Resident Coordinator in Tajikistan.

II. Background

5. Tajikistan was selected for the mission to enable members of the Executive Board to gain insight into the functioning of the UNCT in the context of a low-income country, and to showcase some very clear transformational results and interesting innovative approaches. With some 23

resident agencies, the United Nations development presence is sizeable. As part of the post-2015 consultations to identify a new set of global development goals, the UNCT in Tajikistan successfully conducted extensive and inclusive nationwide consultations not only with governmental and development partners but also with a wide range of civil society stakeholders representing nearly all socially vulnerable groups in the country, including youth, ethnic minorities, the private sector, women's groups, disabled persons, elderly people, etc.. The country is also gearing up for the midterm progress evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2010-2015.

6. The United Nations has been present in Tajikistan since 1992, starting with the United Nations Tajikistan Office of Peace-building, which ended its mission in October 2007. Since 1993, the United Nations has increased its presence to comprise 23 specialized agencies, funds and programmes. The UNCT in Tajikistan is the largest in the Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States region, reflecting the importance and impact of the United Nations on the country's development. UNDP remains the largest United Nations organization in Tajikistan, accounting for nearly two thirds of the total number of implemented programmes.

7. The long-term development process in Tajikistan is guided by its National Development Strategy (NDS) 2007-2015, which was developed at the initiative of the President to raise the nation's standard of living and to meet the Millennium Development Goals. Measures to implement the NDS over the medium term are reflected in various programmes and plans, such as the Government's medium-term programme, the poverty reduction strategy (PRS), which is integrated with the medium-term budget framework, the Public Investment Programme and medium-term foreign aid programmes of donor organizations. The NDS and PRS comprise a single package of documents for the country's development. The NDS is intended to define the priorities and directions for the long-range strategic outlook within this framework, while the PRS is an action plan that outlines the implementation of the NDS over a three-year period.

8. The UNDAF is designed to support the three broad overarching goals of the NDS: (a) development of human potential; (b) reform of public administration; and (c) development of the private sector. The UNDAF outcomes also support the PRS. With the successful completion of the third PRS (2010-2012), the Government of Tajikistan has developed the Mid-Term Living Standard Improvement Strategy for 2013-2015, which addresses the multidimensional nature of poverty (income and human poverty), supporting both the poor and the middle class and leading to sustainable improvement of people's welfare and economic stability in the country. As the completion phase of the NDS for 2007-2015 nears, the Government has initiated the development of the new NDS for 2016-2030.

III. General observations

9. Following the 1992-1997 civil war, Tajikistan transitioned from a post-conflict recovery phase that required direct humanitarian assistance to a nation State based on nascent democratic and market economy principles with a focus on sustainable development. In the early 1990s, the country faced serious economic difficulties arising from the break-up of the former Soviet Union and the transitional period, including the end of budget subsidies from the Soviet Union; the aggravation of the socio-political situation and civil war, which cost the country's economy more than \$7 billion; a steep decline in production; macroeconomic instability; and rapid impoverishment of the population.

10. While many of the problems of the transitional period were addressed in the previous development phases, a number of tasks associated with Tajikistan's market transformation still need to be addressed. These involve, above all, the creation of an institutional and functional environment for national development and a physical environment for economic development and expanded access to basic social services. Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is

another key task. Further development of the rule of law and the formation of a modern civil society have an important role to play in the new phase of the country's development.

11. Tajikistan has at its disposal real opportunities to accomplish this, and taking advantage of these opportunities in an effective way can lay a solid foundation for economic and social development. It has: (a) large potential of fresh water and hydropower resources; (b) diverse mineral resources; (c) strong potential for the development of tourism; (d) availability of agricultural raw materials for industrial processing; (e) relatively large areas of undeveloped land suitable for agricultural use; (f) favourable conditions for the cultivation of environmentally sound food products; (g) an advantageous strategic geographical position to leverage its potential as a transit country in future regional transport and communication; and (h) a comparatively inexpensive labour force.

12. On the other hand, the country's economic development is also influenced by a number of objective factors: (a) it is landlocked; (b) it is far away from developed world economic centres; (c) it has a shortage of accessible oil and gas deposits; (d) it is fragmented into regions because of its natural and geographical features; (e) it has a small domestic market; (f) political instability in the surrounding region; and (g) high transaction costs associated with natural disaster recovery efforts and combating drug trafficking and terrorism. In addition, there are some serious challenges to stable and long-term economic growth and to poverty reduction efforts in Tajikistan.

13. In the NDS, the Government identified several key challenges to stable and long-term economic growth and to poverty reduction efforts in Tajikistan. These include: (a) ineffective public administration; (b) a weak investment climate; (c) inadequate competition; (d) infrastructure limits on growth; (e) a sharp decline in human capital; (f) problems in the management of external migration; (g) inadequate implementation of reforms at the local level; (h) limited results from international cooperation; (i) inefficient structure of the national economy; and (j) inadequate enforcement of laws, protection of human rights and development of civil society.

14. Within this context, the UNCT works closely with the Government to support the country in achieving both its goals for the NDS and the Millennium Development Goals through the UNDAF 2010-2015, which complements the works of other donors and builds on the comparative advantages of the United Nations system. More specifically, UNDP and UNFPA work with the Government through their respective 2010-2105 country programmes.

15. During the field visit, the delegation noted the very good collaboration between the UNCT in general, and UNDP and UNFPA in particular, with the Government, which in turn is firmly aligned with the Millennium Development Goals. This testifies to the fact that UNCT works well in terms of advocacy and spreading United Nations norms. Evidence can be found in the extraordinary level of access the delegation had to senior government officials and in the substantive nature of meetings with them. It is also worth mentioning that the UNCT is very tightly knit and well organized. There is a clear sense of leadership on the part of Resident Coordinator.

16. The delegation also noted that the sustainability of endeavours is clearly important to the UNCT and there is a thoughtful approach to this sustainability –for example, in the replication of the integrated water system, engaging the local community, other donors and the government; comprehensive approaches to disaster risk management and livelihood creation (excavating gravel in flood-prone rivers); and the "machine and tractor stations" which enable small farmers to increase productivity through a sustainable model.

17. There was plenty of evidence of innovation and creativity. Although Tajikistan is not a Delivering as One pilot country, the UNCT has strong commitment to delivering as one and is working as if it were part of the initiative.

18. The delegation noted that the coordination among the donors in Tajikistan was very good and can be used as one of the best examples worldwide. This includes collaboration with non-traditional donors like the Aga Khan Development Network; partnerships with civil society; and the convening a well-functioning Donor Cooperation Council and other initiatives for donors involved in border issues.

19. The delegation found the United Nations security management system to be very professional and well linked with other countries in the region, which is clearly important in this regional context. It takes fully into account the regional and multi-country specificities and challenges of the security situation. There is an evident close partnership with, and support system for, the national security system, which was recently tested by the assault on the UNDP office in Dushanbe.

20. Much of the work of UNDP and UNFPA in Tajikistan could be used as examples of best practices within and beyond the region, both in terms of programming and the organization of work. Given the magnitude of Tajikistan's problems, the work of UNDP and UNFPA, and the requisite international donor support, should continue and expand.

IV. Thematic observations

Social and economic development

21. Tajikistan has made significant progress in social and economic development during recent years. The poverty headcount ratio has fallen from 72 per cent in 2003 to 38.3 per cent in 2012, and extreme poverty declined from 42 to 15 per cent during the same period. The country's maternal mortality ratio dropped from 46.5 per 100,000 live births in 2008 to 37 in 2012, and the total fertility rate has declined from 6.3 to 3.5.

22. The delegation found that the Government of Tajikistan considers UNDP to be an important provider of capacity-building support for economic and social development. Furthermore, there remains an expectation that the United Nations will continue to provide its share of funding, since the demand for financial support is still strong in many areas.

23. With the support of the United Nations and international community, Tajikistan has advanced in the adoption of more sustainable policies and systems to manage its economy and environment. Still, it remains the poorest of the Central Asian countries. Projects supported by UNDP have helped to put the management of natural resources in the hands of local people who use them and who thus have the greatest immediate incentive for their adequate use. As a result, there has been improvement in land use and a registered boost in the local economy. The process gives local communities confidence that they can manage local issues, rather than expecting distant authorities to act. This is of particular importance, considering that due to the landscape of the country, many areas can become disconnected from the capital at times due to mudslides, landslides and other natural disasters. UNDP supported the Government on district development planning, which has been adopted as a methodological tool and already covers more than 30 rural districts. In addition, UNDP supported the Government in its work on improving the monitoring of both the NDS and midterm PRS.

24. One of the critical development issues that Tajikistan faces is access to reliable energy. In Jamoat Burunov, UNDP piloted an integrated, district-level rural development model, with a

small hydropower plant as the driver, which integrated clean water, irrigation, food, energy efficiency, employment and income-generation opportunities, education and health into development planning. The pilot project, visited by the delegation, provided evidence of the improvement of many livelihoods through the steady provision of a basic amount of electricity, primary health care provided by a hospital, a small dairy factory and shop, and a school and kindergarten. This integrated rural development (IRD) project, which is based on renewable energy and energy efficiency, contributes to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals through multiple positive outcomes.

25. Opportunities such as microcredit facilities have assisted farmers in securing low-cost loans to invest in new practices and use their land to its full potential. Funds provided have not only assisted farmers in handling their crops, but also assisted communities in constructing family homes, hiring farm labour to expand production, improving drainage systems, repairing irrigation facilities and even sending children to school. As a result, once the improvement of their livelihood is duly noted, replication in other neighbouring communities and sharing of best practices has been registered.

26. The role of UNFPA is crucial in assisting the Government of Tajikistan in effectively addressing population issues, including maternal and child mortality rates. UNFPA is actively involved in training health-care providers, promoting family planning and raising public awareness of reproductive health issues. The Ministry of Health reiterated its commitment to improve the health of the population by promoting primary health care. This is being done by the continued (though limited) availability, accessibility and affordability of health services; regulating the health sector; and promoting broad-based community and stakeholder participation. The delegation, when visiting rural areas, observed that these areas are difficult for health care providers and social workers to reach. Midwives play an important role in providing assistance in rural areas, although the authorization of Government for the provision of certain services should be addressed promptly. The delegation was also impressed by the partnership between UNFPA and the National Taekwondo Federation to address gender-based violence and empower girls through participation in sports events.

27. Tajikistan's young population (more than half the population is under the age of 24) represents an opportunity to harness the vast demographic dividend for nation-building. However, this group is particularly vulnerable to the current socioeconomic challenges facing the country. In particular, more progress is needed to ensure that women and young girls fully enjoy their rights, especially the right to education. When visiting the National Taekwondo Federation, the delegation observed the joint programme to end violence against women, part of the UNITE Campaign to End Violence against Women. This partnership not only promotes youth empowerment and inclusion in development by building leadership skills and opportunities for youth groups, but also transforms the mindset of existing traditional practices and customs that may hinder women's full enjoyment of their rights.

28. As a signatory to a number of international legal instruments for gender equality, Tajikistan has established a comprehensive policy and legal framework on gender equality. The law on equal rights and equal opportunities of women and men was adopted in 2005, and the law on domestic violence was adopted in 2013. Nonetheless, women do not fully benefit from this legal framework because of, inter alia, stereotypes in Tajik society concerning the roles of women and men and traditional customs and practices.

Water and energy

29. When meeting the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and the First Deputy Minister of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Management, the delegation learned how the Government considers water-related matters to be among the most important issues it faces. As such, the role of

the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Management is critical. Water and energy shortages are some of the greatest challenges confronting Tajikistan. As a landlocked country, it shares natural resources such as water with surrounding countries. The Nurek hydropower plant is Tajikistan's main source of power, producing over 75 per cent of its electricity. The plant supplies electricity to roughly 6 million people, and to the textile, aluminium, food processing and agricultural industries that keep the economy moving.

30. Acute shortages of water, especially in winter, provide a daunting challenge to the country's poverty eradication and development efforts. UNDP is a key government partner in such important initiatives as the International Conference on Water Cooperation (held in August 2013 in Dushanbe) and promotion of integrated water resources management (IWRM) in Tajikistan.

31. The priority need to address the water and energy situation as a condition for sustainable development was emphasized repeatedly by interlocutors at all levels throughout the visit. UNDP cooperates with the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Management through the joint implementation of projects focused on IWRM and water efficiency strategies (a regional IWRM project) at basin levels; elaboration of policies and reforms for water supply and sanitation at the national level (the Tajikistan Water Supply and Sanitation project); and assurance of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to water governance (the HRBA project). The Ministry provides leadership in decision-making processes through active participation and chairing the Inter-ministerial Coordination Council.

32. The importance of water is reflected in the country's long-term vision. One of the strategies and plans presented to the delegation by the various ministers was for the building of a new dam, which could provide sustainable energy through the winter.

33. An IRD model using renewable energy as a driver for development has been successfully implemented in the Jamoat Burunov district of Tajikistan (see paragraph 24 above). The provision of electricity to the most vulnerable group of people, together with increased energy efficiency, accelerates progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. The pilot project substantially improved the livelihoods of over 22,158 people, including 11,670 women and girls.

34. UNDP Tajikistan has been successfully piloting this model, starting with support for creating the legal and policy framework to promote the use of renewable energy, and then piloting the IRD project. The project comprises a range of activities including refurbishment of two 100 kilowatt units of the hydroelectric power plant; energy efficient improvements in social and private institutions (hospital, school, kindergarten); refurbishment of water pumps; and construction of a small dairy factory and greenhouse. All these facilities and 100 households are connected to the small hydropower plant, ensuring access to reliable energy during the winter period.

35. A limited liability company (LLC) has been established to operate and maintain the small hydropower plant, and collect fees based on individual agreements signed with each client. UNDP provided training to the LLC personnel and a set of tools and equipment. UNDP facilitated the signing of a power purchase agreement between the LLC and Barki Tojik to sell excess power during the summer time. The LLC is now investing in further improvements including the establishment of a sewing workshop.

36. Tajikistan is a pilot country for the Secretary-General's Sustainable Energy for All initiative. With the support of UNDP, in 2013 the Government took part in global initiatives within the framework of the International Year of Water Cooperation and hosted the high-level International Conference on Water Cooperation, held in Dushanbe in August.

37. The advisory role of UNDP in these sectors in Tajikistan is critical. The appointment to the Government of UNDP professional advisers on water and energy was crucial to the formulation of

national strategies. Enhancing this kind of support is encouraged, taking into account that it also serves the important function of capacity-building and governance, which are part of the UNCT mandate.

Risk management

38. Tajikistan's high vulnerability to natural disasters, particularly earthquakes, landslides and flooding, presents an ongoing challenge to development. Jointly with the Government of Tajikistan, the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation and the Government of Sweden, UNDP has helped to build the capacity of the Committee on Emergency Situations to respond quickly when disasters strike. The upgraded and well-provisioned Centraspass Training Centre now provides search and rescue training to rescuers at national and regional levels, including through practical exercises on site. Tajikistan's Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team mechanism, developed with UNDP support, uses global best practices in disaster response coordination. The continuing engagement of UNDP is encouraging the expansion of disaster reduction efforts to include prevention, preparedness and ensuring that post-disaster recovery efforts are "building back better" through support to the new national disaster risk management strategy. This was an example of a project with an optimal division of effort from partners and the continuing policy engagement of UNDP so that the project's gains could be sustained and continually strengthened.

39. Regional events over the last two decades have led to a huge expansion of opiate trafficking through Tajikistan. Since 2004, UNDP has implemented the European Union's Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA), which aims to increase security in the region, to contribute to facilitating legitimate trade and transit and to reduce the illicit movement of goods and people. Working with the Tajik Drug Control Agency, UNDP/BOMCA has supported upgrading of the Multi-Agency Dog Training Centre, which trains dogs and handlers from law enforcement agencies to detect illicit drugs. The delegation observed a demonstration of drug detection and noted that the training methods followed best practices.

40. When the planned visit to the BOMCA project at Khorog had to be cancelled due to flight difficulties, the delegation was able to visit an alternative border crossing point at Nizhniy Panj to see the facilities from both the Tajik and Afghan sides, which were established with support from UNDP/ BOMCA. Effective facilities are complemented by training for staff from both countries, and the delegation learned about efforts underway to enable Afghan women to participate in training.

41. As a snapshot of the regional programme, this visit underlined the importance of UNDP support for both security and economic development in the border region, and showed effective collaboration with other donors. This work should remain a high priority: the imperative for both security and economic development in the border region is heightened with the impending withdrawal in 2014 of coalition troops from Afghanistan.

42. It is noteworthy that UNDP Tajikistan also operates in Northern Afghanistan, implementing both the Tajik-Afghan Poverty Reduction Initiative and the Border Management in Northern Afghanistan Project, where it successfully faces different, and greater, security and programme challenges.

Programme and coordination

43. A strong sense of national ownership and leadership was apparent from the team's meetings with the national and local authorities. The Government is deeply involved in identifying the areas where UNDP and UNFPA be most effective and in prioritizing development goals in each of those areas.

44. The delegation saw with satisfaction that the UNCT has deployed effective programme work in accordance with the UNDAF 2010-2015, which was developed in close alignment with Tajikistan's national priorities based on the NDS and PRS, complements the work of other donors and builds on the comparative advantages of the United Nations system.

45. Although Tajikistan is not a Delivering as One pilot country, the UNCT has innovatively implemented several elements of the concept, paying close attention to expanding joint programmes/projects as widely as possible within the United Nations family. The list of joint projects includes:

- a) A joint United Nations communications group, through which nearly all United Nations agencies in the country agree to coordinate and cooperate on "Communicating as One" to external partners and the Tajik population;
- b) A United Nations technical assistance programme to strengthen the capacity of the human rights institutions in Tajikistan (participating organizations: ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN-Women);
- c) Empowering Communities with Better Livelihood and Social Protection in Rasht valley, a project funded by the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (participating agencies: UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN-Women, and WFP, and the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade);
- d) A joint programming approach on AIDS inspired by the successful initiative of UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, which since 2005 have been pooling their resources for the Joint United Nations Project on Advocacy of HIV/AIDS in Tajikistan, with UNDP acting as management agent. The project's overall goal is to support the national response to HIV and AIDS and maintain joint programming in accordance with the objectives of the United Nations Development Group and Global Task Team.

46. A characteristic feature of the work of the UNCT in Tajikistan is the special attention being paid to improved donor coordination through the Donor Coordination Council, which comprises all major multilateral and bilateral donors present in Tajikistan, enabling a systematic United Nations-led dialogue on areas of possible synergetic collaboration. Heads of offices and representatives of many United Nations agencies serve as chairs or co-chairs of the most important working groups in the Council's structure. This clearly contributes to the centrality of the role of United Nations agencies in the process of shaping the national development agenda in a proactive, collaborative and well-coordinated manner.

V. Key findings and recommendations

47. The delegation considered that the UNCT displayed, both in its own organization and in the programmes and projects it undertakes, a number of techniques that represent best practices. There is strong leadership and alignment within the UNCT; strong coordination and coherence within the UNCT (including at regional offices) and with other donors; and the innovative use of established frameworks by the UNCT. The UNCT is seen as a source of knowledge and expertise for other donors and as a "door-opener". It could be worth exploring the factors behind this good practice.

48. It would also be worth considering some of the best practices projects identified (including those referenced below), as well as what contributes to their success and how they could be replicated in the region or more widely.

49. Despite the economic resurgence, Tajikistan continues to face a wide range of challenges to sustainable development. Achieving energy independence, reducing poverty and building a modern transportation infrastructure remain among the country's key long-term priorities.

50. The information received during the delegation's visit demonstrates a persistent strong need for financial and organizational support on the side of United Nations agencies and other international institutions, to ensure further progress in social and economic development in Tajikistan. One of the main focuses of future activities in Tajikistan should be the sustainability and of assistance projects and the ability to replicate their results. One notable example of best practices is the microfinance fund which allows people in Soughd region to develop their own small business enterprises.

51. Regarding the relationship between the principal United Nations organizations in Tajikistan and the national authorities, the work of the UNCT appears to be highly regarded by the Government, and there is obvious respect for the United Nations from both the Government and local people.

52. Taking into consideration that gender equality issues remain highly relevant in Tajikistan, the delegation encourages UNDP and UNFPA to continue their work in this field. In addition to the current activities, an important future activity should be the establishment of a wide and inclusive dialogue with religious leaders in the country, who enjoy the confidence of the population.

53. UNFPA has made great efforts and provided assistance to ensure the provision of basic sexual and reproductive health services throughout the country. This assistance is highly appreciated and acknowledged by both the Government and the beneficiary populations. However, continued assistance is needed to build capacity, ensure the sustainability of the provision of services and expand the provision of specialized treatments and procedures, which to date are mainly available only in the capital city.

54. In line with the provision of the Istanbul Declaration and in view of the subsequent decisions by the Executive Board to fully integrate into its work the Istanbul Programme of Action, adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the UNCT is requested to help the Government in this regard. It may consider establishing a coordination mechanism to monitor follow up in Tajikistan.

55. The regional expertise of UNDP, UNFPA and other UNCT members could be relevant to enhancing the capacity of Tajikistan in the context of regional economic cooperation and integration.

56. Reduction of vulnerability to natural disasters and effects of regional instability, including narcotics trafficking, will continue to need a strong focus, with particular attention in 2014 as coalition troops draw down from Afghanistan. United Nations agencies have made a notable contribution to bolstering Tajikistan's ability to respond to natural disasters and security challenges.

57. The delegation saw examples of the close and effective collaboration between local authorities and the United Nations in assisting vulnerable populations in the region. The resilience of the people and their communities is increased through targeted programmes, such as the IRD model, using renewable energy as a driver for development, which was successfully implemented in the Jamoat Burunov district. The success of the IRD model needs to be further promoted and replicated in other districts of the country, including education and training for local inhabitants to independently operate and maintain the equipment.

Annex. List of participants in the field visit by members of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS to Tajikistan, 24 to 30 June 2013

Regional group/Country	Name and title
Western Europe and other States	
New Zealand	H.E. Ambassador Stephanie Lee Deputy Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations (Team Leader)
African States	
Djibouti	Ms. Saada Daher Hassan Counsellor Permanent Mission of Djibouti to the United Nations
Asian and Pacific States	ž
Indonesia	Mr. Yudho Sasongko First Secretary Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations (Rapporteur for the field visit)
Eastern European States	
Russian Federation	H.E Ambassador Dmitry Maksimychev Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations
Belarus	Mr. Vitaly Kniazev Second Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Latin American and Caribbean States	
Guatemala	Ms. María José del Aguila-Castillo First Secretary Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations

The mission was accompanied by: Ms. Rekha Thapa, Secretary, UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board