

Follow-up and Review of the SDGs: Advice for the UN Secretariat

April 2017

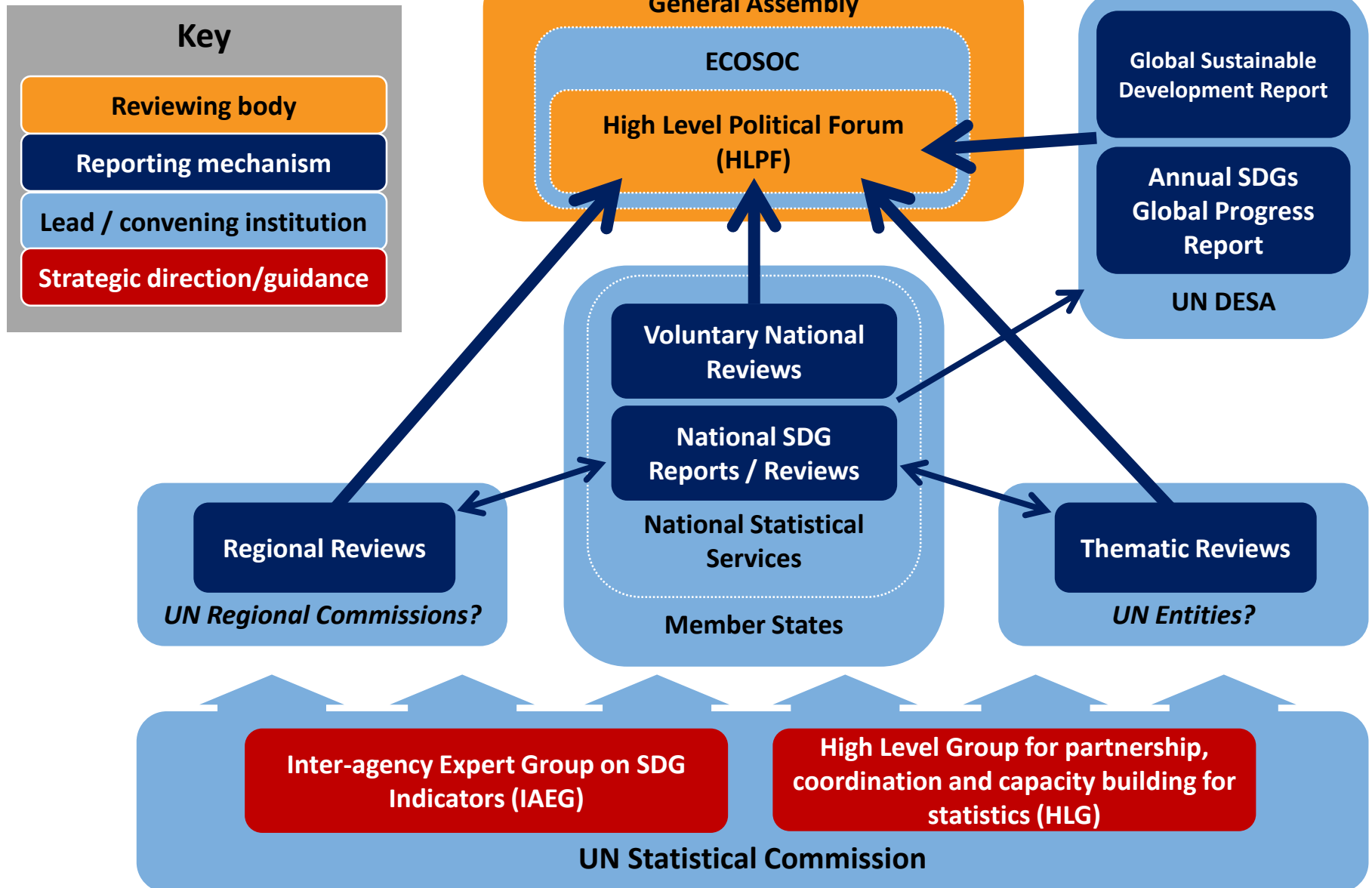


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Why is this important for the UN Secretariat?

- The main **SDG Declaration** (Sep 2015) stresses:
 - *“...the importance of system-wide strategic planning, implementation and reporting in order to ensure coherent and integrated support to implementation of the new Agenda by the UN development system. The relevant governing bodies should take action to review such support to implementation and to report on progress and obstacles”*
- More recently, **GA Resolution 71/243** (Dec 2016) calls on UN entities:
 - *“...to mainstream the SDGs in their strategic planning documents and their work at all levels”, and;*
 - *“...to reflect their contribution to the implementation of [the 2030 Agenda] in their strategic plans and similar planning documentation”*

The SDG Follow-up and Review Ecosystem



Developing an entity-level SDG M&E strategy

- Three main steps that UN entities can take:
 - 1. Identify the most relevant SDGs**
 - 2. Support the formal SDG review process**
 - 3. Align their own M&E systems to the SDGs**
- Full advice note provides a more detailed ‘**menu**’ of potential actions and opportunities.

1: Identifying the most relevant SDGs

- Vital precursor for the development of an entity's **monitoring strategy**: know what you want to measure
- Necessary for understanding whether and how an entity can **support the broader, global SDG review effort**
- OIOS-IED undertook a light-touch **mapping exercise**, identifying where each entity was most likely to contribute
- Maps will not represent a perfect reflection of each organization's work, but should be a **useful starting point**

1: Identifying the most relevant SDGs

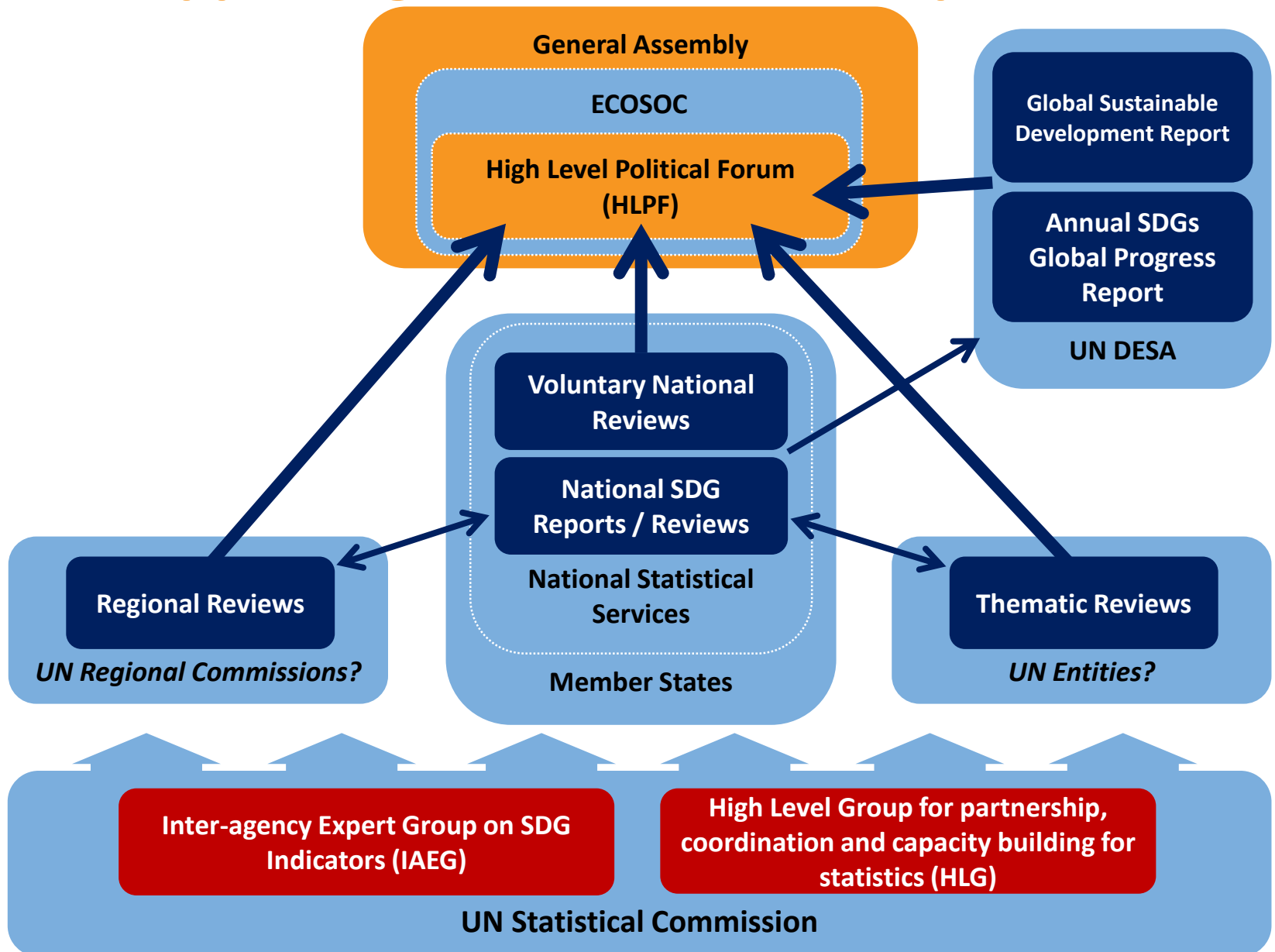
UN Secretariat SDG Contribution Maps

Potential Target-level contributions

- Likely contribution (self-assessed)
- Feasible contribution (self-assessed)
- Likely contribution (OIOS-assessed)
- Feasible contribution (OIOS-assessed)

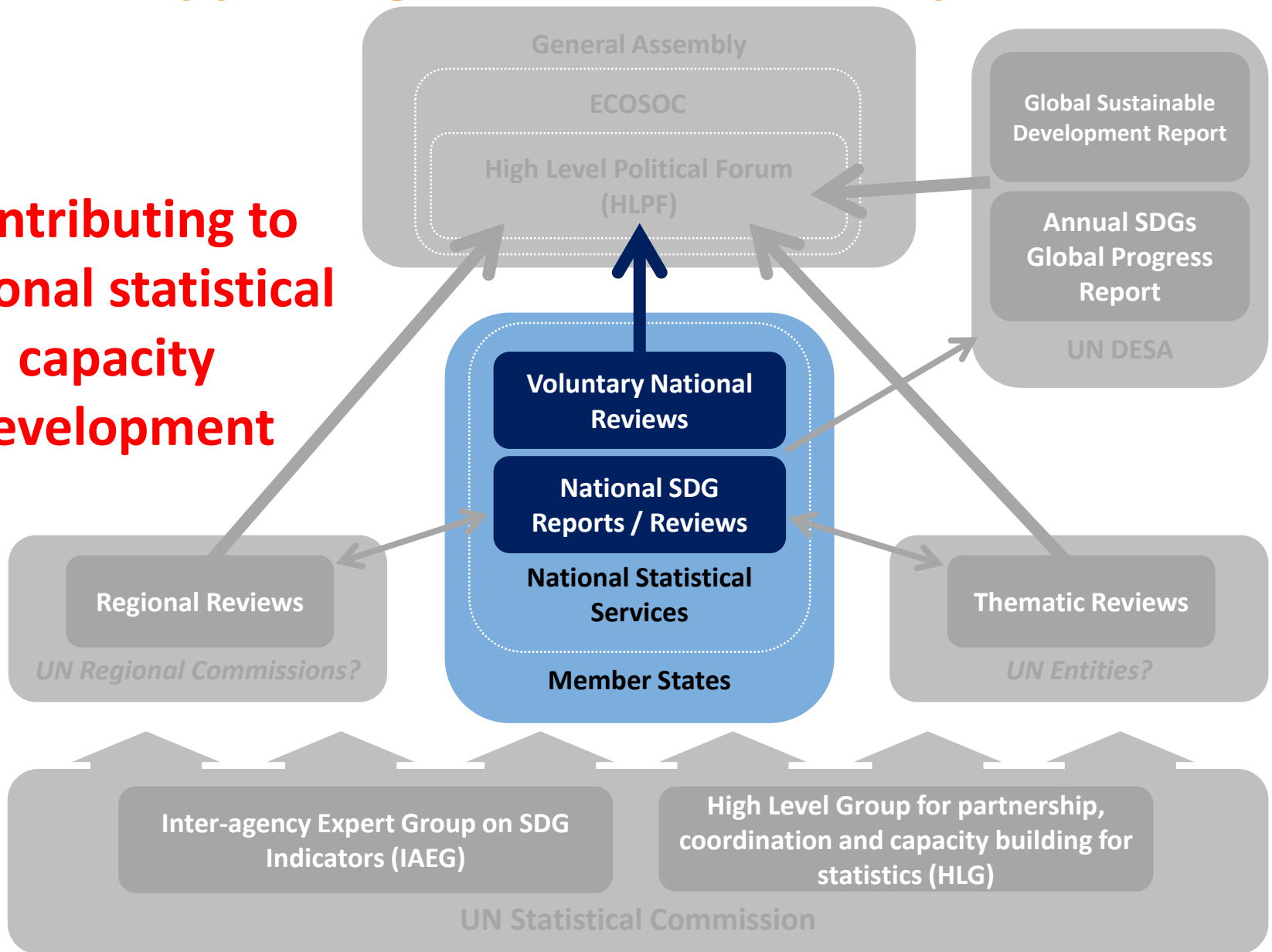
	PEACE & SECURITY				HUMAN RIGHTS & HUMANITARIAN				REGIONAL COOPERATION					NORM SETTING & DEVELOPMENT							MANAGEMENT & SUPPORT											
	DPKO	DFS	DPA / PBSO	UNODA	OCHA	OHCHR	UNHCR	UNRWA	ECA	ECE	ECLAC	ESCAP	ESCWA	DESA	ITC	OHRLLS	OOSA	OSAA	UNCTAD	UNEP	UN-HABITAT	UNODC	UN Women	DGACM	DMI	DPI	DSS	EOSG	OLA	UNOG	UNON	UNOV
No poverty	1																															
By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere	1.1																															
By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all countries and contexts	1.2																															
Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, especially the poor and vulnerable	1.3																															
By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and vulnerable, enjoy equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to financial services, credit, inheritance, land and ownership rights	1.4																															
By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related events and disasters	1.5																															
Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including governments, private enterprises and civil society	1.a																															
Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on evidence and best available science, to support the transition to a just and equitable low-carbon development	1.b																															
Zero hunger	2																															
By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and vulnerable, to adequate, safe and nutritious food at all times	2.1																															
By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the global target of a third reduction in stunted children under-five, and halving the number of children under-five who are overweight or obese worldwide, and addressing iron deficiency and vitamin A deficiency	2.2																															
By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, and family farmers, fishers and aquaculture farmers, including through secure and equal access to land, other factors of production, knowledge and financial services, and increasing their resilience to climate change, disasters and economic shocks	2.3																															
By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and resilient food chains, including through digital technologies, and reduce food loss and waste along the supply chain, including post-harvest losses	2.4																															
By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plant species and farmland animal breeds, and ensure sustainable management and use of these diverse resources	2.5																															
Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension, technology development, and digital and financial services to small-scale food producers and fishers, and increase the number of small-scale food producers and fishers with access to financial services	2.a																															
Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the World Trade Organization, regional and multilateral agreements, and commodity-specific arrangements, and in line with the Doha Development Agenda and the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement	2.b																															
Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and to reduce their volatility, including through the International Grains Council, the International Rice Monitor, and the International Agricultural Trade Information Gateway	2.c																															
Good health and well-being	3																															
By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births	3.1																															
By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under-five, and reduce the global road traffic deaths by 50 per cent	3.2																															
By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and hepatitis B, and combat hepatitis C, drug use and HIV/AIDS, including through strengthened prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care services, and support for vulnerable populations	3.3																															

2: Supporting the formal review process



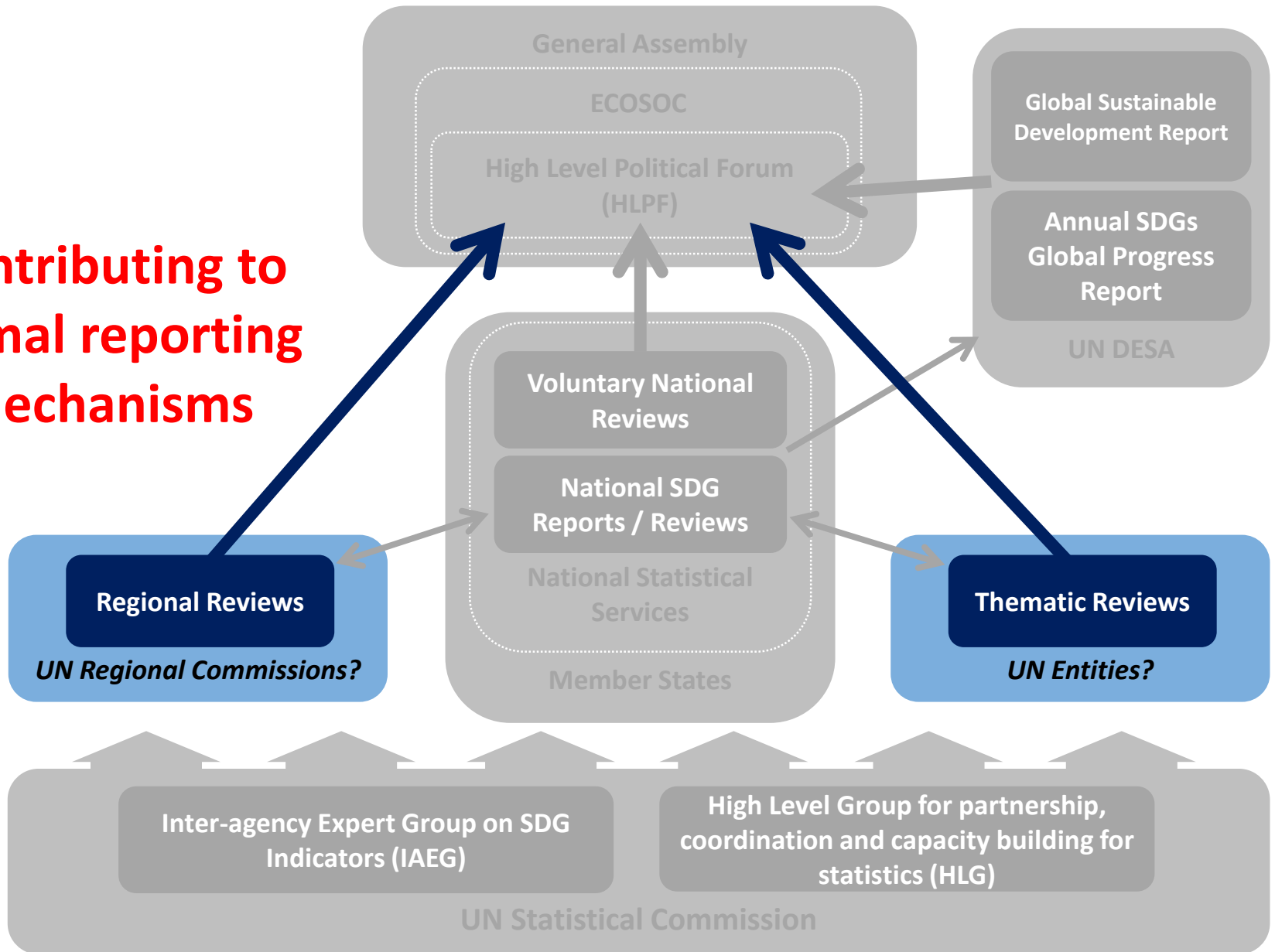
2: Supporting the formal review process

Contributing to national statistical capacity development



2: Supporting the formal review process

Contributing to formal reporting mechanisms



3: Aligning M&E systems with the SDGs

- Value in monitoring and evaluating *any* engagement with the SDGs:
 - Helps an organization understand where and how it contributes (**accountability**)
 - Helps to inform an organization's own strategic planning (**learning**)
- While an organization's own systems should serve as the starting point, there are **tangible actions** that UN entities can take to align their systems with global SDG follow-up and review processes

3: Aligning M&E systems with the SDGs

- **Build on existing systems and processes:**
 - Use governing bodies and flagship publications
 - Minimise duplication: consider joint M&E
 - Coordinate country-level work through UNCTs
- **Ground M&E within the broader SDG context:**
 - Identify how work relates to wider agendas: again, joint M&E should be considered
 - Align evaluation workplans with annual HLPF agendas (these have been set up until 2019)

3: Aligning M&E systems with the SDGs

- **Develop rigorous, high quality data:**
 - Need to apply methodologies that are as rigorous as globally applied methodologies: pool resources, work alongside others
 - Avoid duplication: consult with IAEG, align with existing monitoring initiatives (e.g. SDG 17: Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation)
- **Learning focused evaluation:**
 - Qualitative analysis on what has gone well, what hasn't gone well, how to improve
 - Potentially less daunting 'entry point'

3: Aligning M&E systems with the SDGs

- **Leaving no-one behind:**
 - Consider prioritising evaluations that are likely to have the greatest focus on vulnerable groups
 - M&E approaches should adhere to UNEG's ethical guidelines

Recommended amendments to OIOS-IED policies

- OIOS-IED have reviewed their own M&E policies and documentation, to ensure direction and support OIOS give to UN entities is fully aligned to SDG processes
- **Main recommendation:**
SDG assessment should be mainstreamed throughout OIOS- IED's work
 - Approach SDGs in a way analogous to gender and human rights
 - Oblige all TORs / inception reports / evaluations to identify whether and how programmes support or contribute to specific SDG targets

Recommended amendments to OIOS-IED policies

- Specific recommendations also made against following documentation:
 - Inspection and Evaluation Manual
 - The IED Strategic Framework and PIP
 - Guidance to Programmes for Developing an Evaluation Policy
 - OIOS-IED Templates for Evaluation TORs, Evaluation Inception Reports, Evaluation Reports
 - OIOS-IED Biennial Report
 - The Self-Evaluation Policy of the OIOS
 - Technical Note: How to prepare and use PIPs for scoping and reporting an IED programme evaluation