

## Summit of the Future: risk and opportunities for developing countries

### A Dialogue with the G77+China Countries

11 April 2024 | 13:00 – 15:00 (CET)

International Environment House II, Chemin de Balexert 7-9, 1219 Vernier  
Salle Rhone

Co-organised by  
South Centre & Transnational Institute  
Geneva, Switzerland

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#### Background:

The Summit of the Future (the Summit) will take place in September 2024 in New York. It aims to strengthen international cooperation and effectively respond to the world's current concerns and challenges. It presents an opportunity to identify new opportunities for strengthening multilateralism and the role of the United Nations in an ever-changing world. The Summit offers a space for states and societies to discuss, elaborate on, and make proposals that may lead us to a more democratic, sustainable and inclusive global governance and a peaceful world.

The Summit of the Future was proposed in the Report titled "[Our Common Agenda](#)," which the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly 2021 as a response to the shared threats of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, the risks and opportunities of technological advances, and the stagnation on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The General Assembly agreed to hold this Summit in September 2024, building on the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit. The General Assembly also agreed that the outcome of the Summit should be "[a concise, action-oriented outcome document entitled 'A Pact for the Future', agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations](#)".

The Governments of Germany and Namibia, as co-facilitators of the intergovernmental negotiations, presented the [Zero Draft](#) of the "Pact for the Future" on 29 January 2024. The document is divided into five chapters: sustainable development and financing for development; international peace and security; science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation; youth and future generations; and transforming global governance.

In this context, the South Centre and the Transnational Institute have co-organised this open dialogue to analyse and share ideas among developing countries, scholars and researchers, and CSO's representatives on the contents of the ongoing process towards a Pact for the Future (and the Digital Compact) to be adopted in next September, during

the Summit of the Future, including the role that Geneva Missions could have in this process.

#### Objectives:

- Analyse and share ideas on the content of the “Pact of the Future,” including the scope and extent to which the Summit of the Future's outcome document strengthens multilateralism to address the international community's current and future concerns and challenges.
- Identify the role and means by which developing countries' Missions in Geneva can support and contribute to the Summit of the Future outcome document regarding issues on Financing for Development, Science, Technology and Education, including discussions on the Digital Global Compact and Transforming Global Governance.

The South Centre has published an analysis of the [fragmentation in the digital governance and the proposed Digital Global Compact](#). Likewise, a [report on 'multistakeholderism'](#) in the UN context - one of the key issues raised in this process towards the Summit – was also published by the South Centre and the Transnational Institute

#### Agenda:

##### Opening Remarks (13:00-13:20)

**H.E. Mrs. Ambassador Julia Imene-Chanduru**, Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Namibia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

**Carlos Correa**, Executive Director, South Centre

**Fiona Dove**, Executive Director, Transnational Institute

##### Initial Presentation (13:20 – 13:30)

##### What's at stake at the Pact for the Future?

- **H.E. Ambassador Prasith Suon**, Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the World Trade Organisation and the International Organisations.

##### Panel on Specific Chapters (13:30 – 14:20)

<p>1. Does the Chapter on Sustainable Development and Financing for Development respond to the challenges developing countries face?</p>	<p><b>Yuefen Li</b>, Senior Adviser on Financing for Development and South-South Cooperation, South Centre</p> <p><b>Stefano Prato</b>, Society for International Development (virtual)</p>
<p>2. Is the chapter on Science &amp; Technology and Innovation identifying the needs and priorities of Developing Countries?</p>	<p><b>Anita Gurumurthy</b>, IT for Change (virtual)</p> <p><b>Daniel Uribe</b>, Lead Programme Officer, Sustainable Development and Climate Change, South Centre</p>
<p>3. Does Chapter 5 on Transforming Global Governance achieve its objective, particularly strengthening multilateralism to face the current poly-crisis?</p>	<p><b>Harris Gleckman</b>, Transnational Institute</p>
<p><b>Open Debate among Participants (14:25 – 14:50)</b></p>	
<p><b>Concluding Remarks by Panellists (14:50 – 15:00)</b></p>	

### Format of the Dialogue:

The dialogue will be held in person in the **International Environment House II, Chemin de Balexert 7-9, 1219 Vernier, Salle Rhone**, from 13:00 to 15:00.

### Contact Information and Registration

For more information, please contact Mr. Daniel Uribe, Lead Programme Officer, South Centre ([uribe.df@gmail.com](mailto:uribe.df@gmail.com)).