



**BACKGROUND ON
GLOBAL GOVERNANCE REFORM
BRIEFING TO GENEVA MISSIONS AND NGOS**

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THE CONTEXT

- **Multilateralism faces a deficit of effectiveness and trust.** The responses, or lack thereof, to multifaceted crises from climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic to the war in Ukraine affect the credibility of the UN system.
- **Designing a viable and reliable multilateral system adapted to the needs of humankind** – today and for future generations - is a common responsibility of state and non-state actors.
- While the attention is usually focused on the negotiations taking place in New York, **the role of International Geneva and its broad agenda is crucial** for defining the values and achieving the goals of the multilateral system now and in the future.

EFFORTS TO RETHINK & ADJUST MULTILATERALISM

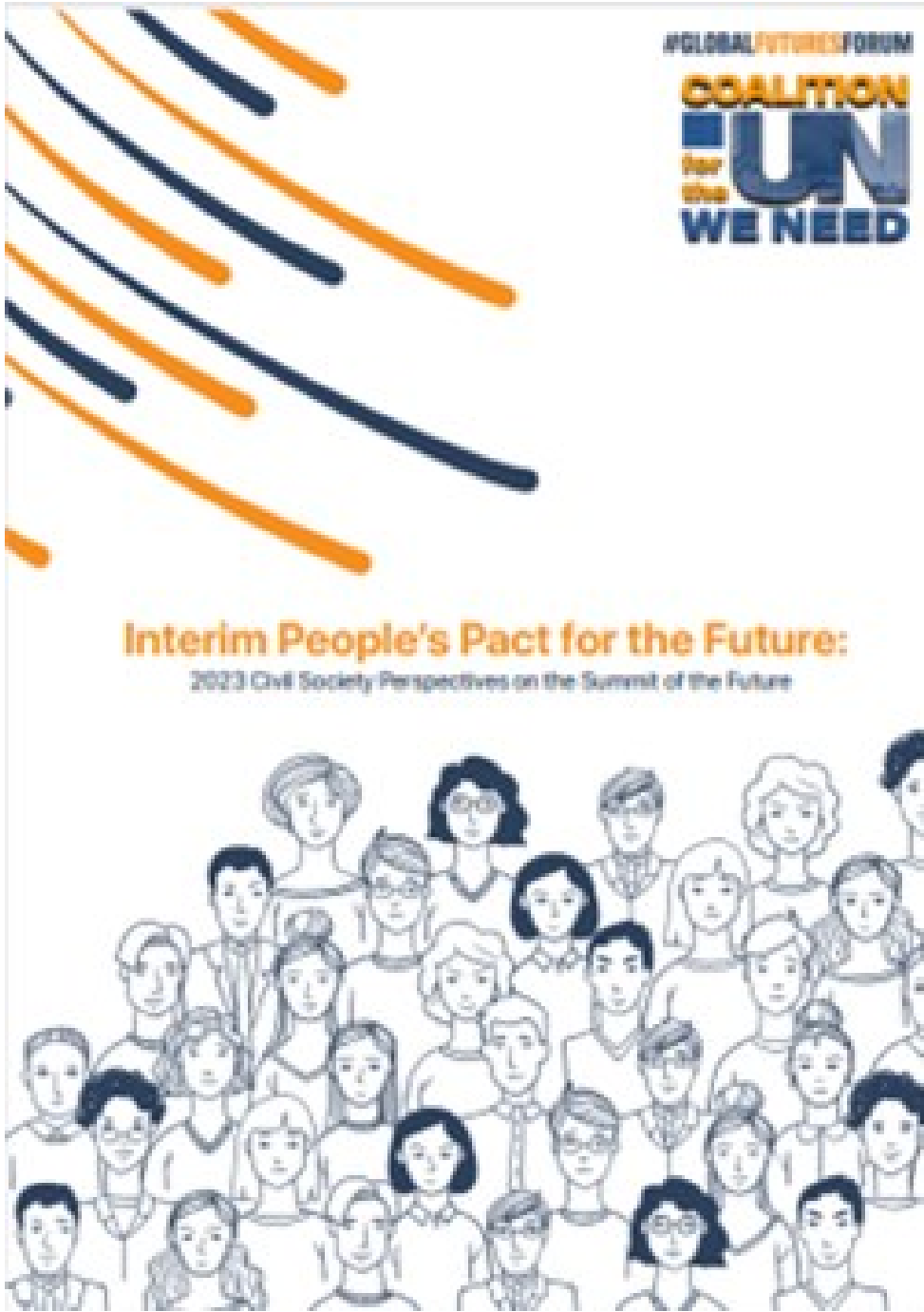
- Declaration issued by UN Member States to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations (September 2020)
- Subsequent Our Common Agenda (OCA) report of the UN Secretary-General (September 2021)
- OCA offshoots in spring-summer 2023 include the report of the UN Secretary-General's High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism (HLAB) and a series of policy briefs on diverse issues on the UN reform agenda
- International civil society through C4UN has its own proposals for Member States to consider, recently integrated into an Interim People's Pact for the Future
- SDG Summit and preparatory Ministerial for the Summit of the Future (SOTF) to take place in September 2023
- The SOTF itself to take place in September 2024
- Social Development Summit in 2025

WHAT IS EFFECTIVE MULTILATERALISM?

The UN Secretary-General's High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism (HLAB) identified the following principles as underpinning effective multilateralism:

1. People-centered
2. Representative
3. Transparent
4. Equitable
5. Networked
6. Resourced
7. Mission-focused
8. Flexible
9. Accountable
10. Future-oriented

INTERIM PEOPLE'S PACT FOR THE FUTURE (MAY 2023)



SEVEN TRACKS

1. Development and the SDGs;
2. Environmental governance;
3. Human rights and participation;
4. The Global Digital Compact;
5. The global economic and financial architecture;
6. Peace and security;
7. UN and global governance innovation



PROPOSALS INCLUDE (I)

DEVELOPMENT AND THE SDGS

1. *SDG Coherence - clarify implementation responsibilities*
2. Enhance quality education, analysis and tracking, and ensure accountability regarding SDG implementation
3. Articulate and act on alternatives to GDP
4. *Reinforce the SDGs*
5. *Establish a Global Resilience Council*

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

1. Promote a Decarbonization Agenda
2. Upgrade existing global governance structures
3. Establish an Environmental Governance Agency
4. Prioritize Transformative Education that promotes Empathy and Empowerment

HUMAN RIGHTS & PARTICIPATION

1. *Launch a full spectrum human rights implementation and enforcement mechanism.*
2. Adopt intersectional and intergenerational approaches that recognize the importance of human rights across all policy domains.
3. Protect Human Rights Defenders and strengthen civic space.
4. Promote educational programs that enhance local participation (localization).
5. *Strengthen UN Human Rights Bodies, including by doubling the financial resources of the OHCHR.*

GLOBAL DIGITAL COMPACT

1. Accelerate existing UN initiatives
2. Empower individuals by democratizing the internet
3. Protect human rights and privacy online
4. Close the digital divide within and between countries

PROPOSALS INCLUDE (II)

GLOBAL ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE

1. Biennial Summit for the World Economy to achieve more equitable socioeconomic recovery.
2. Increase Transparency in World Trade Organization Decision-Making and include New Stakeholders in National Committees on Trade Facilitation.
3. Establish an International Anti-Corruption Court to tackle Grand Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows.
4. Tax Currency Transfers, Airline Ticket Purchases, and other Transnational Services, and adopt a UN Tax Convention, to Mobilize Public Finance and Leverage Private Finance for Critical Public Goods.
5. Expand the IMF's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) as a Means for Debt Relief and Financing of Critical Global Public Goods.

PEACE AND SECURITY

1. Preventing war (including nuclear war), and strengthening international mechanisms through UN Charter Chapter VI for the peaceful resolution of disputes.
2. Implementing Article 26 of the UN Charter through plans and action for disarmament to release resources for economic and social development.
3. Promoting nuclear disarmament as integral to advancing SDG #16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, with the goal of nuclear abolition by 2045.
4. Reforming the Security Council, including better representation, the elimination of the veto, and consideration of auxiliary councils.
5. Creating a United Nations Emergency Peace Service (UNEPS).

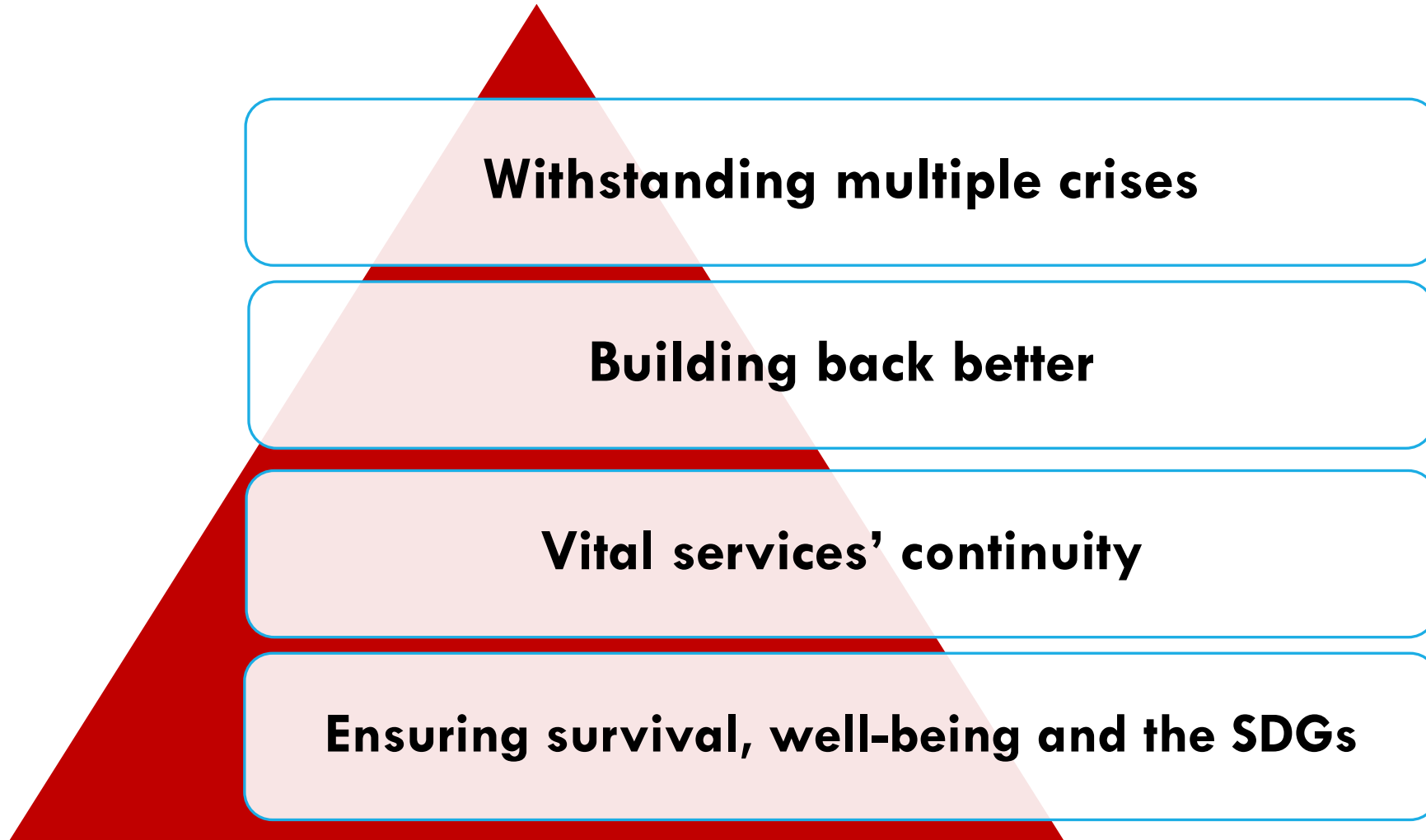
PROPOSALS INCLUDE (III)

UN & GLOBAL GOVERNANCE INNOVATION

1. Review and strengthen civil society involvement
2. Establish an open and transparent selection of an independent UN Secretary-General
3. Create a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly
4. Create the instrument of a UN World Citizens' Initiative
5. Call for an Article 109 Charter Review Conference

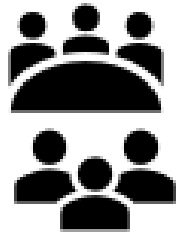
CONTINUING AS FOGGS

EMPHASIS ON RESILIENCE



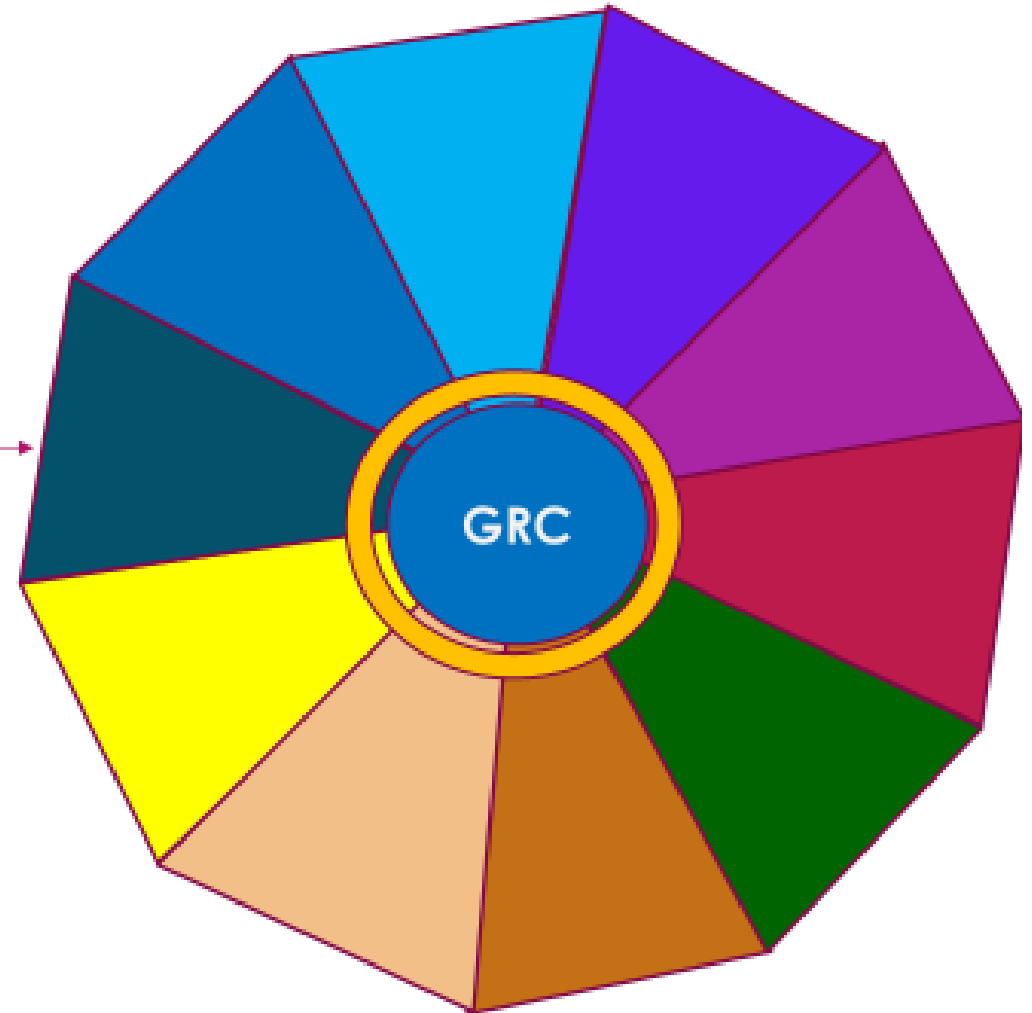
THE GLOBAL RESILIENCE COUNCIL IN ACTION


Non-military
threat to human
security identified



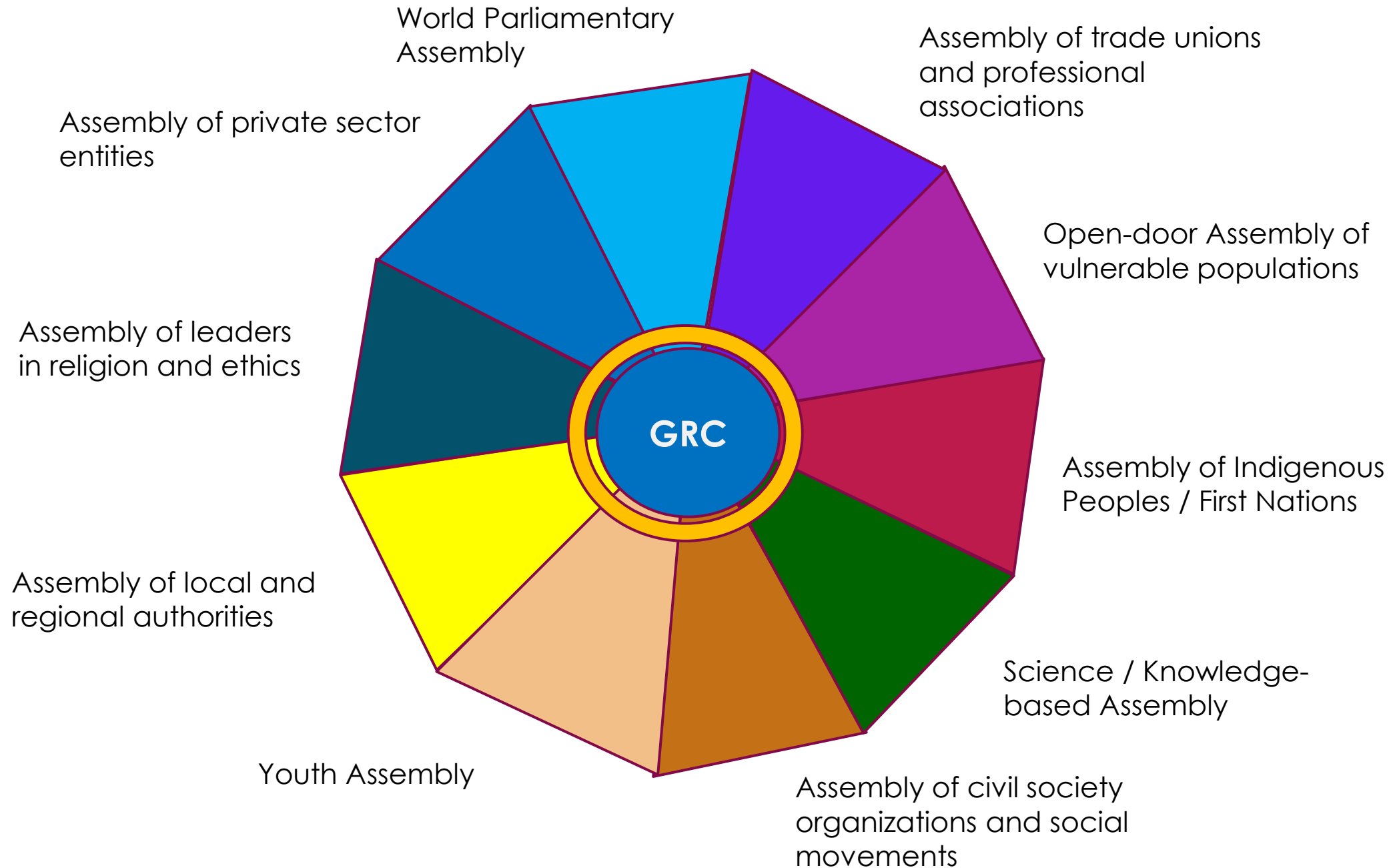
Dealt with by
designated
multilateral body

Issue identified
as requiring an
"all-of-
multilateralism" /
"all-of-society"
approach and thus
referred to the GRC




Multiple state and non-state actor constituencies

THE GRC ADVISORY UNIVERSE



THE GRC AND THE TEN PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE MULTILATERALISM



PRINCIPLE	CORRESPONDING GRC CHARACTERISTIC
PEOPLE-CENTERED	Focused on human security
REPRESENTATIVE	Participation of state and non-state actors, bringing together the whole UN system and beyond
TRANSPARENT	Public meetings as a rule
EQUITABLE	Decision-making core consisting of states and regional organizations representing all key geographical and functional groups
NETWORKED	Systematic engagement of non-state actor constituencies
RESOURCED	Up to the UN Member States to ensure that (servicing GRC meetings and substantively supporting the Council can be done by the existing UN Secretariat machinery, with substantive support from other UN system entities, depending on the topic)
MISSION-FOCUSED	Bringing together all relevant state and non-state actors in a whole-of-government / whole-of-society approach to actually address issues and ensure a coordinated response to major challenges brought to its attention
FLEXIBLE	No UN Charter amendment required to establish it; a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly and the intergovernmental assemblies of those UN system entities that agree to declare it their subsidiary body too
ACCOUNTABLE	Reporting to the UN General Assembly, possibly also ECOSOC/HLPF, and the intergovernmental assemblies of those UN system entities that have agreed to declare it their subsidiary body too
FUTURE-ORIENTED	Going beyond traditional peace & security, which is under the purview of the UN Security Council, open to addressing new/emerging threats to human security



Association of Former International Civil Servants for Development
Association d'anciens fonctionnaires internationaux pour le développement



FOGGS

Foundation for Global
Governance and Sustainability

THANK YOU!

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