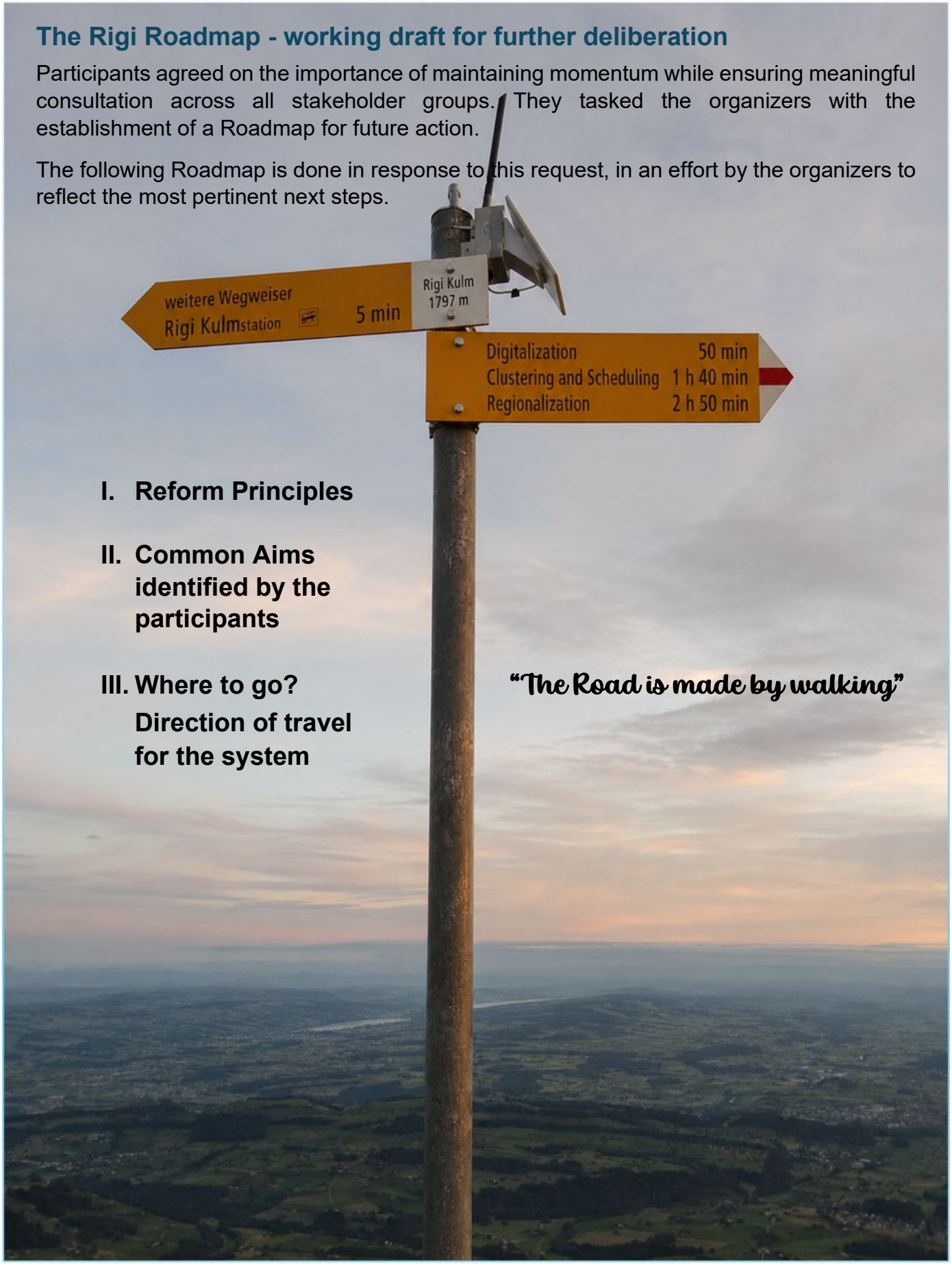
The Rigi Roadmap - working draft for further deliberation

Participants agreed on the importance of maintaining momentum while ensuring meaningful consultation across all stakeholder groups. They tasked the organizers with the establishment of a Roadmap for future action.

The following Roadmap is done in response to this request, in an effort by the organizers to reflect the most pertinent next steps.



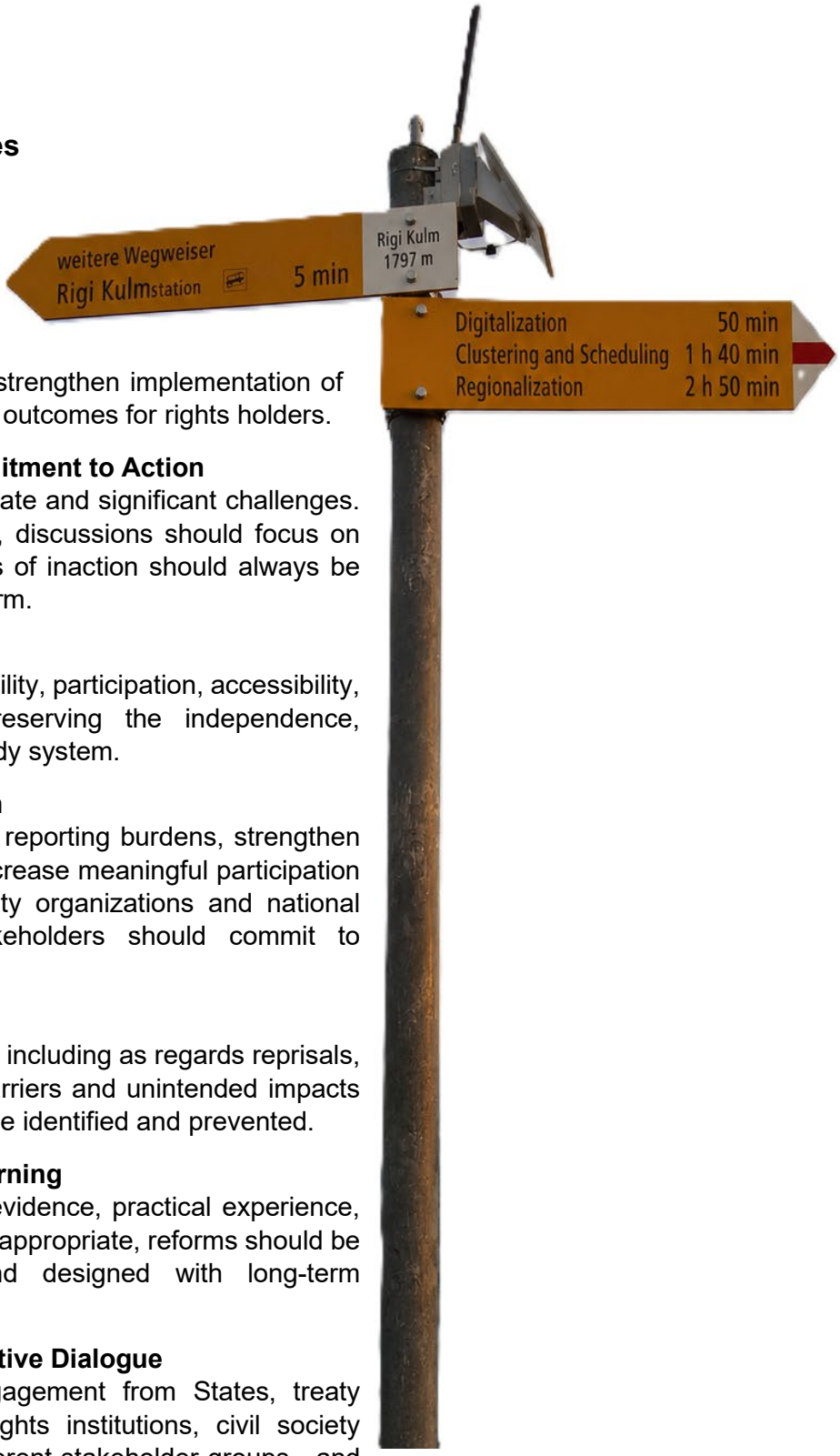
I. **Reform Principles**

II. **Common Aims identified by the participants**

III. **Where to go? Direction of travel for the system**

"The Road is made by walking"

I. Reform Principles



1. Human Rights Impact
The purpose of reform should be to strengthen implementation of human rights obligations and improve outcomes for rights holders.

2. Urgency, Pragmatism and Commitment to Action
The treaty body system faces immediate and significant challenges. While consultation remains essential, discussions should focus on practical pathways forward. The risks of inaction should always be considered alongside the risks of reform.

3. Human Rights-Based Approach
Reforms should strengthen accountability, participation, accessibility, inclusion and protection, while preserving the independence, authority and integrity of the treaty body system.

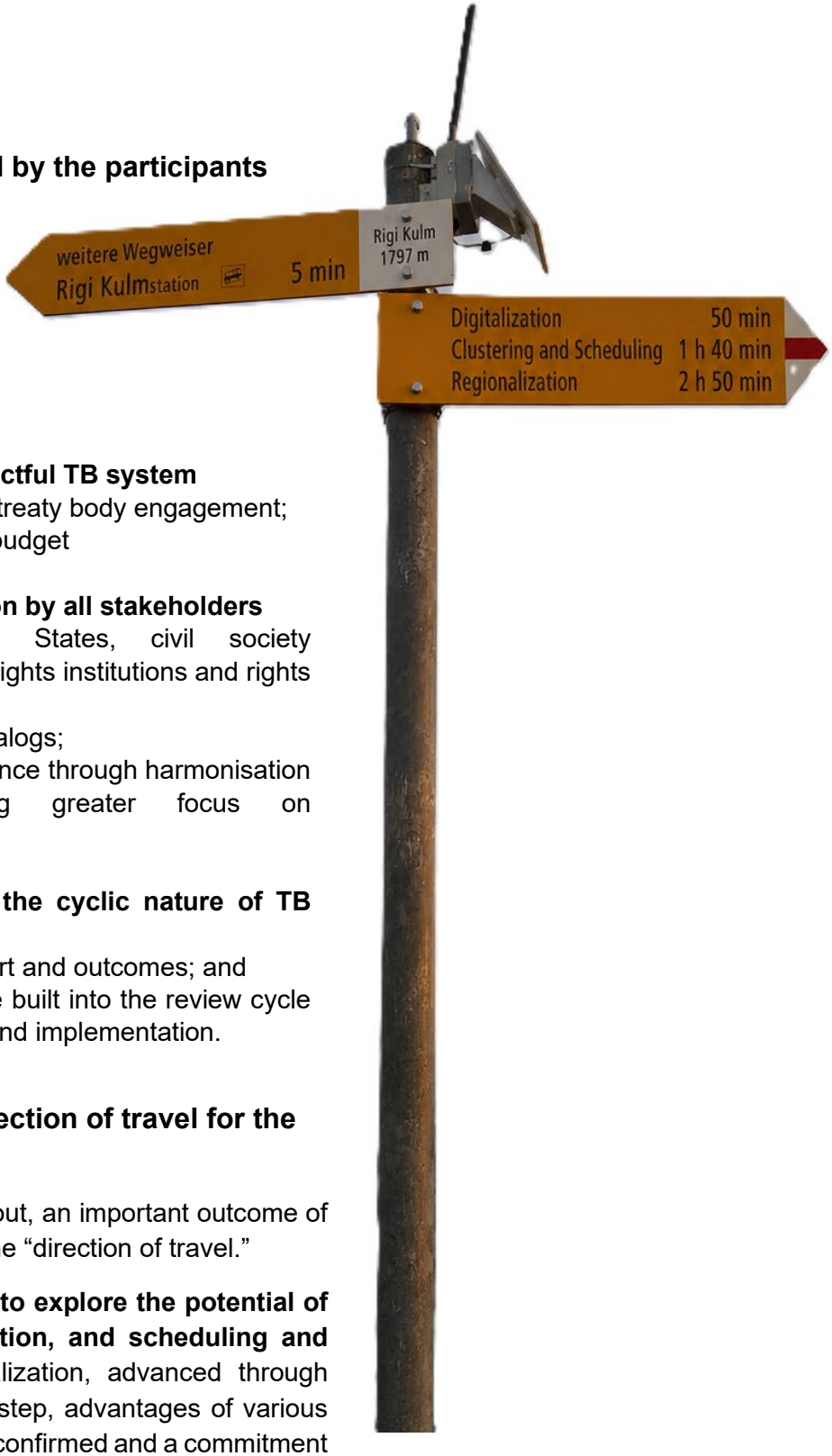
4. Implementation and Participation
Reforms should reduce unnecessary reporting burdens, strengthen implementation and follow-up, and increase meaningful participation by States, rights holders, civil society organizations and national human rights institutions. All stakeholders should commit to implement reforms collectively.

5. Do No Harm
Potential risks associated with reform, including as regards reprisals, shrinking civic space, accessibility barriers and unintended impacts on treaty body effectiveness, should be identified and prevented.

6. Evidence, Sustainability and Learning
Discussions should be informed by evidence, practical experience, dialogue and lessons learned. Where appropriate, reforms should be tested through pilot initiatives and designed with long-term sustainability in mind.

7. Shared Ownership and Constructive Dialogue
Sustainable reform will require engagement from States, treaty bodies, OHCHR, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and rights holders. Different stakeholder groups—and individual members within those groups—may have different priorities, perspectives and concerns. Consultations should therefore seek to identify common ground, promote dialogue and cooperation understand trade-offs and build broad support for practical solutions.

II. Common Aims identified by the participants



The beginning of the Rigi-Retreat was dedicated to identifying common aims among all stakeholders.

1. **A sustainable, efficient and impactful TB system**
   - Regular, universal, predictable treaty body engagement;
   - A reliable and forward-looking budget

2. **Ensuring meaningful participation by all stakeholders**
   - Meaningful participation by States, civil society organisations, national human rights institutions and rights holders;
   - Regionalised and accessible dialogs;
   - Facilitation of reporting compliance through harmonisation and digitalisation, enabling greater focus on implementation and follow-up.

3. **Focus on implementation and the cyclic nature of TB engagement**
   - Stronger implementation support and outcomes; and
   - Follow-up mechanisms that are built into the review cycle and that promote cooperation and implementation.

III. Where to go? Direction of travel for the system

Whereas details remain to be fleshed out, an important outcome of the Rigi-Retreat was convergence of the “direction of travel.”

All participants agreed on the need to explore the potential of all areas: digitalization, regionalization, and scheduling and clustering. While the area of digitalization, advanced through OHCHR may be the most immediate step, advantages of various options of regionalization were equally confirmed and a commitment to a universal predictable schedule, complementarity and mutual reinforcement between the treaties reconfirmed.

All steps can be taken forward separately, but the main gain will the move towards an integrated “overhaul” of the TB system.