Intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda Stocktaking session New York, January 19-21, 2015

The new development agenda has no other option but to be a **truly uniting programme** that would give humankind a viable chance to get rid of poverty and to aspire to prosperity. This is indeed the opportunity to proceed in a universal manner, both in terms of the scope of the challenges and common responsibilities and solutions.

As we start the intergovernmental negotiations for the post-2015 agenda, Belarus would like to offer a few basic ideas and suggestions that could contribute to the collective efforts in the run-up to the September 2015 Summit.

- The new development framework to be defined by the current process should include, as a matter of priority, promotion of the family as a contributor to and beneficiary of, the sustainable development. Highlighting in the new agenda this important interlinkage is meant to ensure the family-friendly and family-supportive environment based on a centuries-long social cohesion pattern inherent to all traditions, cultures and civilizations.
- Eradication of poverty as key objective of the new agenda will be a futile effort unless
 the unifying potential of middle-income countries is properly addressed. The new
 development agenda should give middle-income countries the tools to help
 themselves and to help others. It will be crucial to correctly interpret this dual
 challenge through coordinating mechanisms across the UN system.
- Energy is the main tool and literally the fuel for sustainable development and at the same time a key area of human activity. The post-2015 sustainable development agenda simply cannot disregard the need for a more strategic, robust and comprehensive energy agenda. This will be the time and opportunity to put energy issues under the ownership of Member States. Of equal importance would be the setup and implementation of a transparent and fair mechanism of access to and transfer of, technologies, including energy technologies.
- Sustainable development and issues of climate change will undoubtedly go hand in
 hand in the foreseeable future. It is necessary to translate this interconnection through
 a number of instruments. Incentive mechanisms of any future climate agreement
 should be accessible for all, just and fair. Such mechanisms would mean that every
 participating country diminishing its climate impact should be encouraged. At the same
 time, developed countries could promote direct investments in the ecologically
 responsible nations.