

Palau Statement
OWG 11- Focus Areas 1 & 2
May 5, 2015

Thank you, Mr. Co-Chair, for giving me the floor.

We congratulate you for the well done job as reflected in our working document. We believe it provides a good basis for our work going forward. We think the idea of Encyclopedia Groupinica is refreshingly creative and very useful. We agree with the proposed program of work until July and pledge our continued support to you.

Co-chairs;

We align ourselves with the statements made by PNG on behalf of PSIDS and Nauru on behalf of AOSIS and wish to make four small observations in our national capacity:

1. In Focus area 1. Poverty eradication, building shared prosperity and promoting equality.

We believe that goals (a)-(f) will permit us to identify specific indicators to ensure that the various social and economic activities relevant to poverty eradication are taken, including the needs of special populations such as children, youth, women and persons with disability. In addition, under (d) and (f) we will be able to have an indicator about animals which are very important productive assets that can be either lost or be a driver for resilience in disasters.

Mr. Co-Chair, we believe that in each of our focus areas, the framework should be structured around the 3 pillars. For instance, in this focus area, we should add something to the effect that our "economic and social efforts to eradicate poverty should not negatively impact the environment and sustainability of natural resources."

2. In Focus area 2, we agree with all the goals but in (b) where it states, "End malnutrition in all its forms, notably stunting and wasting in children under five years of age," we agree that stunting and wasting are still a major problems for the under five years of age in many parts of the world. In addition, we want to ensure that the over-nutrition forms of malnutrition, as mentioned by Ireland, Romania and Switzerland which result in such conditions as overweight and obesity be addressed. These conditions are becoming more prevalent, especially in the developing countries as undiagnosed pre-diabetic or diabetic women become pregnant and also as breastmilk substitutes and other processed foods are given more and more to infants and children, again, especially the case among developing countries. By the way, breastmilk substitutes and processed foods have their own major role in exacerbating poverty.

Mr. Co-Chair:

1. With regards to the x% issue: our recommendation is to say, 'reduce by 50% of the national baseline.

2. With regards to the timeframe for the SDGs- we think a 15-year timeframe is reasonable, that is to say, by 2030 the goals should be achieved. This would be the same timeframe as was for the MDGs which we think was appropriate.

Thank you for your kind attention.