



PERMANENT MISSION
OF ICELAND
to the United Nations

800 Third Avenue, 36th floor
New York, NY 10022
Tel: +1 212 593 2700, fax: +1 212 593 6269
unmission@mfa.is, www.iceland.org/un/nyc

New York, 7 August 2014
Ref: FNY13010012/97.E.021; 39.A.001
KÝR/--

Excellencies

The delegation of Iceland reaffirms its acknowledgement of the tireless efforts of the Co-chairs and their wise leadership during the sessions of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. However, with reference to our interventions during the sessions the Icelandic Delegation would like to bring to the attention of the Co-chairs a number of concerns.

The Delegation of Iceland finds itself obliged to make a strong reservation with regard to paragraph 14.c under goal 14. We could have agreed to the paragraph if it concluded after the word UNCLOS (“ensure the full implementation of international law, as reflected in UNCLOS. “) As the paragraph stands, the text is unacceptable.

The Icelandic Delegation also has considerable concerns about the language in paragraphs 1.4, 5.4 and 5.a. The language is weaker than the text agreed to in Rio. In this regard we call the attention of the Co-chairs to paragraph 240 of the Rio Declaration. Given the existence of agreed texts on this issue, it is our hope that this matter will turn out to be a technical issue and that the language can rapidly be aligned with the former agreed texts. We would like to seek the confirmation of the Co-chairs on this matter.

Please accept, Excellencies the assurances of my highest considerations.



Nikulás Hannigan
Charge d' Affaires, a.i.

H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

Co-Chair of the Open Working Group on SDGs

H.E. Mr. Csaba Korosi

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Hungary to the United Nations

Co-Chair of the Open Working Group on SDGs

cc. All Permanent and Observer Missions to the United Nations