

**Statement by Ambassador Hahn Choong-hee
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to
the United Nations
'Integrating sustainable development goals and targets into the
post-2015 development agenda'
Stocktaking Session, Intergovernmental Negotiations on the
Post-2015 Development Agenda
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Thank you, Mr. Co-Facilitator.

I would like to begin by thanking Mr. Andrew Scott for his presentation. There will be three major global meetings in 2015: the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa in July, the UN Summit on the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda in September, and the Paris Climate Conference (COP21) in December. Considering the close connection between the three parallel processes in terms of substance and resources, we hope to see a mutually-reinforcing and synergized approach.

Mr. Co-facilitator,

The Republic of Korea welcomes the report of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the result of over a year and a half of negotiations. When it come to Goals and Targets we all agreed that the report of the Open Working Group will be an important basis for the negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, together with the Rio+20 outcome document, the report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, and the Secretary General's Synthesis Report.

Nevertheless, we take note of the concern regarding the realistic implementability of the 17 goals and 169 targets. In particular, taking into account the structural differences between the SDGs and the post-2015 outcome document, rearrangement of the SDGs needs be considered. For example, while the means of implementation are currently a part of the 17 goals of the SDGs, the post-2015 outcome document will reposition the means of implementation as a distinct part of the document. Furthermore, we should explore incorporating some of the targets which have a strong declarative nature to the Declaration part of the outcome document.

Secondly, the six Essential Elements presented by Secretary-General in his Synthesis Report provides us a way to integrate the SDGs into the post-2015 development agenda. As the major strength of the MDGs was its simplicity, clarity and easy to communicate, reframing the 17 goals and 169 targets should be considered for the post-2015 development goals in this regard.

In addition, goals that have proven spill-over benefits as enablers of development – such as education, health, and gender equality – must be highlighted, in order to keep in mind the limited resource availability over the 15-year implementation period of the post-2015 development agenda.

We especially echo the importance of the effective communication of the post-2015 development agenda to the general public, who are the actual beneficiaries of the goals and targets and thus hope to use the six Essential Elements to our advantage throughout this process.

Lastly, the response to climate change is closely knitted in the goals and targets, and provides the overall context for post-2015 development. As such, the issue of climate change must be reviewed in detail during the integration of the SDGs into the post-2015 development agenda.

To conclude, let me reiterate that we cannot dilute the quality or the significance of the SDGs, which took such commitment and patience. However, failing to fully address the realistic feasibility of the goals within the post-2015 development framework will not be also desirable. Thus, I encourage all colleagues in the room to keep in mind our ultimate vision for a sustainable future as we continue our negotiation process.

Thank you. /End/