

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LESOTHO, H.E. MR.  
KELEBONE A. MAOPE, ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>th</sup>  
SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs,**

**MAY 5, 2014**

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

**Focus area 2. Sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition**

**Co-Chairs,**

I have the honour to deliver this Statement on behalf of the African Group on focus areas 1 and 2. The group aligns itself with the statement delivered by Bolivia. I wish to align ourAt the outset, I would like to convey our appreciation to you for your diligent leadership of the Working Group and in particular for quality of the working documents made available for this session. We note that you undertook considerable effort to streamline the text, reducing the number of focus area from 19 to the current 16. Despite the narrowing down, we notice that you made great attempts to integrate the items contained therein elsewhere in the current document. We encourage the streamlining of the text, which seeks to preserve the substance emanating from our proposals. Nonetheless, the Group views the working document as a good basis for further crystallizing of goals and targets.

The African Group reiterates the importance of taking into account, as we elaborate universal SDGs, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as well as different national realities, capacities, and levels of development. We stress the need for a brief introduction, narrative or chapeau that will highlight the principles that will underpin the SDGs, some of which we can get from the Rio+20 Outcome document. As we move forward, and mindful of the time left to finalize our work, the African Group would like to underscore the need for specific proposals in terms of goals and targets that are action-oriented, concise and easy to communicate.

**Co-Chairs,**

As underscored during the previous sessions, the African Group is of the view that Means of Implementation should be linked to each and every goal in addition to its inclusion as a stand-alone SDG when finally agreed upon. The African Group will provide some illustrations on how this could be achieved and hope that the revised working document for the next session will contain concrete MOI under each identified goal.

**Co-Chairs,**

Under focus area 1, African States would like to propose the following goal: "Eradicate poverty in all its forms". This should encompass the following targets:

- a) Eradicate extreme poverty by 2030

- b) Drastically reduce all level and forms of poverty, including relative poverty by 2030
- c) Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people
- d) Provide nationally appropriate social protection, including floors to reduce vulnerabilities of the poor, including children, youth, the unemployed, migrants, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and older persons.
- e) Ensure equality of economic opportunity for all women and men, including access to property and productive assets, finance and markets for all women and men; especially for the poor and disadvantaged.

The MOI for the above could include:

- a) Ensuring predictable and adequate international financing for developing countries requiring assistance to implement poverty eradication policies and programmes;
- b) The UN system and other organizations to establish mechanisms for addressing the root causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at all levels;
- c) Ensuring that adequate policy space is given to developing countries by the international organizations and rules to enable developing countries to establish and implement their policies in favour of poverty eradication and interests of the poor;
- d) Ensure that global trade and investment rules are designed and implemented with the objective of addressing pro-actively the specific constraints faced by developing countries, including effective operationalization of the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, especially those facing increasing marginalization in the globalizing world economy.

Under focus area 2, the goal the Group proposes a goal which reads as follows: “Promote sustainable agriculture, and achieve food security and adequate nutrition for all”. This goal, which is of critical importance to our continent, must include the following targets:

- a) Ensure sustainable agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture that improve food security by 2030
- b) Enhance the production, storage, transportation, availability, accessibility, utilization, safety and quality of food
- c) Enhance agro-industrial production in developing countries by 2030

- d) Ensure the livelihood small farmers, fishers and other rural communities, in particular women through access to productive resources, financial services and markets
- e) Improve the productivity of smallholder agriculture and livestock through extension of technological support, small-scale irrigation schemes, rural infrastructure, credit and social services.
- f) Ensure the Agricultural research, with emphasis placed on research development, knowledge sharing and management and technology dissemination and adoption;
- g) Achieve zero post-harvest and other food losses and waste by 2030
- h) Increase market access for agricultural products from African countries.
- i) Strengthen resilience to external and climate shocks, such as droughts, floods, commodity price volatility, food shortages and export restrictions, particularly on staple foods.
- j) Achieve the transformation to sustainable, diverse and resilient agriculture and food systems that conserve natural resources and ecosystems, restores land and realize a land-degradation neutral world.
- k) All countries have in place sustainable land-use policies by 2020, and all drought-prone countries develop and implement drought preparedness policies by 2020.

The MOI for the above could include:

- a) Ensuring public financing and transfer of appropriate technology by developed countries which is needed for the adoption of sustainable agriculture and to put in place the required infrastructure, communications and other enabling conditions;
- b) Introducing effective international and national regulation over the operation of commodity markets to address food price volatility and speculative activities;
- c) Reducing trade distorting subsidies in developed countries in line with WTO Doha Declaration 2001;
- d) Providing developing countries adequate policy space, including in conditions for loans and aid, to support their agriculture sector and their farmers through various measures such as credit, marketing, storage, processing, provision of agriculture inputs, land reform and land improvement measures, and measures to make agriculture more sustainable through improved sustainable agriculture methods.

**Thank you for your attention.**

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LESOTHO, H.E. MR. KELEBONE A. MAOPE ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs,**

**MAY 5, 2014**

**Focus area 3. Health and population dynamics**

**Focus area 4. Education and life-long learning**

**Co-Chairs,**

I have the honour of delivering this Statement on behalf of the African Group focus areas 3 and 4.

**Co-Chairs,**

The Group is of the view that Focus area 3 should generate one SDG which would be: “Ensure quality, adequate, affordable, accessible and comprehensive health services for all”. Targets should be articulated as follows:

- a) Raise life expectancy at birth to a minimum of 60 years by 2020
- b) Ensure universal access to quality basic health services and essential medicines and vaccines for all by 2025
- c) Reduce to 0 infant, under-five and maternal mortality rates by 2025
- d) Improve medical infrastructure including local manufacturing of health commodities, health systems and health financing
- e) Strengthen regulatory harmonization and local pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity
- f) Achieve, by 2020, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it
- g) End the epidemics of HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) by 2030
- h) significantly reduce the incidence of communicable and non-communicable diseases, including mental health

**Co-Chairs,**

Allow me to say a few words on population dynamics. This constitutes, from our perspective, an important cross-cutting issue that should be addressed in SDGs in the form of targets incorporated into relevant goals.

Along these lines, the African Group expresses strong reservations on any attempt to introduce, in the SDGs framework, new and controversial concepts, which are not

internationally agreed upon. In our view, the introduction of this language would be a deliberate attempt to seriously undermine the national ownership and the implementation of SDGs. The post-2015 development agenda should not create any opportunity to consider human rights issues in a non-objective and confrontational manner nor attempt to undermine the international human rights system by seeking to impose concepts or notions pertaining to social matters, including private individual conduct, that fall outside the internationally agreed human rights legal framework.

**Co-Chairs,**

Under Focus area 4, the Group proposes a goal which reads as follows: “Provide affordable and quality education at all levels and life-long learning for all”. This goal should encompass the following targets:

- a) Ensure equal access to education at all levels, skills development and vocational training, including for migrants, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples
- b) Ensure quality education at pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary levels
- c) Achieve a minimum of 100% enrolment and completion rates at primary level by 2020 and 80% at secondary and tertiary levels by 2025 for both females and males
- d) Strengthen the science and technology component of education curricula
- d) Develop entrepreneurship skills, life skills and vocational and technical training to respond to labor market demands; providing information and technology skills
- f) Promote action-oriented research at all levels of the education and training system
- e) Achieve 100% youth and adult literacy rate
- f) Invest in learning infrastructures at pre-primary, primary, secondary, tertiary and vocational levels
- g) Improve the quality and conditions of service of educators and trainers.

**Co-Chairs,**

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the attachment of African countries to the tertiary education. It is of critical importance to broaden the scope of the goal on education. Indeed, research and development, capacity-building, science, technology and innovation are essential tools in the achievement of SDGs, cannot be guaranteed by narrowing down education targets to the pre-primary, primary and even secondary levels. Tertiary education is indeed at the heart of our development process.

**Thank you for your attention.**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. USMAN SARKI AMBASSADOR DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NIGERIA, ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGS,**

**MAY 6, 2014**

**Focus area 5. Gender equality and women's empowerment**

**Focus area 6. Water and sanitation**

**Co-Chairs,**

I have the honour to deliver this Statement on behalf of the African Group focus areas 5 and 6.

**Co-Chairs,**

The Group supports a goal on "Gender equality and women's empowerment" with the following targets:

- a) Eradicate all forms of violence against women and children, and harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM) and early marriage
- b) Improve health care services for women
- c) Ensure equal employment opportunities for women and equal pay for equal work
- d) Ensure equal access to and their ownership of land and other productive assets, credit, extension services and training
- e) Eliminate gender-based discrimination in political, economic and decision-making processes in public and private institutions.

**Co-Chairs,**

Allow me to express the reservations of African States on sub-item h) of Focus area 5 as contained in the working document for this session, namely on the reduction of unpaid care work. We would like to emphasize that this is not just an economic issue because it touches the foundations of the value systems of our societies.

**Co-Chairs,**

Under Focus area 4, the African Group welcomes a goal on "water and sanitation for all" and views sub-items a) to h) as good proposals for possible targets. In addition, the Group would like to suggest the following elements:

- a) Increase rural and urban coverage with improved sanitation to 100% by 2030
- b) Reduce mortality and economic loss by from natural and human-induced water- related disasters by percentage to be agreed.

**Thank you for your attention.**

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LESOTHO, H.E. MR. KELEBONE A. MAOPE, ON  
BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs,**

**MAY 7, 2014**

**Focus area 7. Energy**

**Focus area 8. Economic growth, employment and infrastructure**

**Co-Chairs,**

I have the honour to deliver this Statement on behalf of the African Group focus areas 7 and 8.

**Co-Chairs,**

The Group sees a lot of merit in a goal on energy. The impact of energy on education, health, economy, livelihoods and gender equality cannot be overemphasized. Just to take an example, according to the World Bank, only “Some 24 percent of the population of sub-Saharan Africa has access to electricity versus 40 percent in other low income countries”. Therefore, the Group supports a goal as formulated in the working document, namely: “Ensure access to affordable, sustainable, and reliable modern energy for all”. Targets could be articulated as follows:

- a) Transform power infrastructure to raise access and affordability of electricity to 80% of the population of developing countries by 2025 and 100% by 2030;
- b) Ensure universal access, for both women and men, to modern energy services;
- c) By 2030 increase by x% the share of clean and low- or zero- emission energy technologies, including sustainable biomass and advanced cookstoves;
- d) Increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix, including by providing policy space and necessary incentives for renewable energy to developing countries;
- e) Improve energy efficiency in buildings, industry, agriculture and transport.

**Co-Chairs,**

The African Group wishes to advise caution on sub-item e) of Focus area 6 as contained in the working document for this session, namely on the phase-out of fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption. We would like to emphasize that a clear distinction should be made between subsidies that lower the cost of fossil fuel energy production, subsidies that raise the price received by energy producers and subsidies that lower the price paid by energy consumers. It should be recalled that in the case of African countries, only the third category of subsidies have been applied in order address the issues of accessibility and affordability. Moreover, our countries are not in any case among those which are responsible of the wasteful consumption or fossil fuel or for the global warming.

## **Co-Chairs,**

The achievement of the “energy goal” will require appropriate means of implementation, which could include the following:

- a) Commitments by developed countries to support efforts in developing countries on provision of energy services especially for the poor, through provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfer;
- b) International cooperation to remove barriers that developing countries face or may face, in obtaining access to clean energy technologies;
- c) Encourage the use of TRIPS flexibilities in relation to promoting the use of environmentally sound energy technologies.

## **Co-Chairs,**

Under Focus area 7, the African Group proposes a new clustering under which the sub-item on “infrastructure” will be left out in order to be incorporated in the focus area on industrialization. Therefore, the Group proposes a goal that reads: “Achieve sustained and inclusive economic growth, full employment and decent jobs for all”. The following should be considered:

- a) Attain trend economic growth of at least 6-7 per cent per annum in low income countries and as near to that level as possible in other developing countries;
- b) Achieve middle-income and emerging economy growth status by xx
- c) Sustain income growth of the bottom 40% of the income distribution of each country to reduce income inequalities by 2030
- d) Promote trade as an engine of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, in particular its contribution to boosting job creation
- c) increase the share of high productivity sectors and activities in the economy, and strengthen productive capacities through technological upgrading and greater value addition, with particular focus on countries in special situation;
- d) Achieve comprehensive development of productive capacity in developing countries in line with development strategies;
- e) Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all who seek employment including for people living in vulnerable situations by 2030;
- f) Halve the number of youth not in employment, education or training by 2020;
- g) Developing entrepreneurship skills, life skills and vocational and technical training to respond to labor market demands; providing information and technology skills;
- j) Promote formalization of informal sector activities and employment
- h) Create appropriate climate for SMEs, entrepreneurship and innovation at the national and international levels by 2020;
- i) Protect the rights of all workers, including migrant workers, in compliance with ILO fundamental rights at work.

**Means of implementation could include the following, among others:**



- a) By 2020, fulfil all commitments related to ODA to developing states;
- b) By 2020, eliminate all barriers to remittance flows to developing countries
- c) By 2020, return all illicit financial resources to countries of origin
- d) Develop an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system
- e) By 2020, eliminate all trade protectionist measures to increase the volume of exports from developing states in particular African states - Africa contributes only 3% of global trade
- f) Ensure developing countries achieve debt sustainability through debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring
- g) Regulation of financial markets to ensure global financial system stability
- h) Promote transfer of technologies to African countries by 2025, and establish a UN Global technology facilitation mechanism
- i) Reform governance of major global financial and development institutions – World Bank, IMF, International Finance Corporation – for balanced and democratic representation across regions by 2020

**Thank you for your attention.**

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LESOTHO, H.E. MR. KELEBONE A. MAOPE, ON  
BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs,**

**MAY 7, 2014**

**Focus area 9. Industrialization and promoting equality among nations**

**Focus area 10. Sustainable cities and human settlements**

**Co-Chairs,**

I have the honour to deliver this Statement on behalf of the African Group focus areas 9 and 10.

**Co-Chairs,**

As mentioned in our statement on Focus area 8, the African Group proposes a change in the title of Focus area 9 to include the “infrastructure”. Thus, the Group strongly support the following goal: “Achieve Sustainable industrialization, infrastructure development and equality among nations”. Targets could be articulated as follows:

- a) Significant increase of decent industrial sector jobs in developing countries;
- b) Achieve sustained and job-rich industrial development in developing countries, especially in low income countries, by increasing manufacturing value added (MVA) at a higher rate than population growth and by increasing the share of MVA in GDP;
- c) Increase the share of developing countries in global manufacturing output;
- d) Achieve economic diversification so as to avoid dependence on exports of a few commodities in developing countries by increasing domestic processing of raw materials and by increasing the share of medium- and high-technology industries and industry-related services in GDP;
- e) increase support for trade-related capacity development in developing countries for improving competitiveness of their SMEs and their business environment, for diversifying structurally and for competing in the international markets as well as for complying with international standards and non- tariff measures through inter alia, aid for trade;
- f) Promote trade as an engine of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, in particular its contribution to boosting job creation;
- g) Improve and upgrade technological capability in developing countries as an essential component of industrial development
- h) Promote endogenous technology development and innovation in developing countries;
- i) Develop entrepreneurship skills, life skills and vocational and technical training to respond to labor market demands; providing information and technology skills;
- j) Ensure that the outcomes of research and knowledge creation, including traditional knowledge systems, are shared and effectively integrated in development programmes;
- k) Develop sustainable infrastructure accessible to all, with attention to needs of countries in

special situations, and by 2030 provide access for 100% of rural populations to basic infrastructure and services

l) Achieve integrated national and regional infrastructure networks and services in Africa (Energy, Transport, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), etc.).

### **Co-Chairs,**

The African Group would like to underscore the critical importance to include targets on inequalities between countries, including the reduction of wealth gap between developed and developing countries and the adoption by international organisations of reduction of international inequality as an objective of their institutions.

### **Co-Chairs,**

The achievement of this will require appropriate means of implementation, which could include the following elements:

- a) Strengthen international cooperation, including the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfer to developing countries” (Rio +20, Paragraph 58f) in support of developing countries’ industrial development objectives;
- b) Enable developing countries to have affordable access to technology in order to facilitate their industrial development, and establishment of a UN Global technology facilitation mechanism
- c) Ensure that trade rules and negotiations are consistent with the objectives of developing countries for industrial development and technological progress.
- d) By 2020, reform all international institutions to make them more democratic and representative of Member States;
- e) Establish and effectively implement a legally binding multilateral code of conduct for TNCs to secure social responsibility and accountability and prevent restrictive business practices
- f) Ensure small producers have affordable access to credit and financial services.
- g) Ensuring that trade and investment agreements enable rather than discourage or detract from policy space in developing countries that is required for their development
- h) Commitments by developed countries to support efforts in developing countries on provision of energy services especially for the poor, through provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfer;
- i) International cooperation to remove barriers that developing countries face or may face, in obtaining access to clean energy technologies;
- j) Encourage the use of TRIPS flexibilities in relation to promoting the use of environmentally sound energy technologies.

### **Co-Chairs,**

Under Focus area 10, the African Group the Group supports a goal as formulated in the

working document, namely: “Build inclusive, safe and sustainable cities and human settlements”. The following targets should be considered:

- a) Eradicate and prevent slum conditions, including by provision of adequate and affordable housing, infrastructure and basic services.
- b) Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport for both urban and rural dwellers and improve road safety and urban air quality;
- c) Reduce the number of persons exposed to harmful levels of indoor air pollution;
- d) Improve waste and wastewater management;
- e) Strengthen positive economic and social links between cities and peri-urban and rural areas, including policies in rural areas that support livelihoods, decent income and food security;
- f) Improve housing conditions, including access to clean water and sanitation and access to modern energy;
- g) By 2030 ensure that all cities are accessible and offer opportunities to persons with disabilities;
- h) Protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.

**Thank you for your attention.**

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LESOTHO, H.E. MR. KELEBONE A. MAOPE, ON  
BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs,**

**MAY 8, 2014**

**Focus area 11. Sustainable Consumption and Production**

**Focus area 12. Climate change**

**Co-Chairs,**

I have the honour to deliver this Statement on behalf of the African Group focus areas 11 and 12.

**Co-Chairs,**

Under Focus area 11, the African Group is of the view that the Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns should constitute the basis of any goals or targets, bearing in mind Chapter 4 of Agenda 21 recognized that “the major cause of the continued deterioration of the global environment is unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, particularly in industrialized countries”. However, the Group believes a particular attention should be given to the prevention of food loss and waste.

**Co-Chairs,**

Under Focus area 12, the African Group takes note of your proposal to “build a climate change goal based on the outcome of COP21 of the UNFCCC”. However, we would like to underscore that several elements of outcomes of previous UNFCCC- COP are still relevant and should be incorporated in a goal on climate change. Those elements include, *inter alia*, a Loss and Damage programme, a Technology Mechanism and the establishment of the Green Climate Fund in which developed countries have expressed broad agreement to mobilize 100 billion US dollars per year both for adaptation and mitigation by 2020. It is also important to the field of all commitments on transfer of technologies and capacity building, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Cancun Agreement at the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC adopted in Cancun.

Furthermore, the Group emphasizes on the need of building capacities for anticipating and responding to disasters adequately and reducing their impact on people living in vulnerable situations.

**Co-Chairs,**

The African Group does not envisage a goal on climate change without due consideration given to some of the most serious challenges that undermine its developments efforts, namely desertification, land degradation and drought. In that vein, the African Group proposes the following targets:

- a) Zero Net Land Degradation by 2030;
- b) All countries to have in place land management policies built on sustainable ecosystem approach by 2030;
- c) All drought prone countries develop and implement drought preparedness policies by 2030.

**Thank you for your attention.**

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LESOTHO, H.E. MR. KELEBONE A. MAOPE, ON  
BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs,**

**MAY 8, 2014**

**Focus area 13. Conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, oceans and seas**

**Focus area 14. Ecosystems and biodiversity**

Co-Chairs,

I have the honour to deliver this Statement on behalf of the African Group focus areas 13 and 14.

Co-Chairs,

My Group is of the view that all focus areas 13 and 14 should be streamlined under one goal in order to address all types of ecosystems and biodiversity priorities in the most comprehensive way while taking into account interlinkages between issues under consideration. The new goal would read: "Take urgent and significant actions for the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of biodiversity, marine resources and terrestrial ecosystems". Targets under this goal may include the following elements:

- a) by 2030, prevent, control and reduce by x% marine pollution and marine disposal of waste and tailings, including from land-based activities;
- b) by 2030, restore and protect marine ecosystems from destruction, including by halting and preventing ocean acidification and coastal erosion;
- c) develop and ensure the full implementation of existing regional and international regimes governing oceans and seas, including for resources in areas beyond national jurisdictions,
- d) by 2020, eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and destructive fishing practices
- e) by 2030, eliminate fishing subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing;
- f) by 2020 halt the loss of all biodiversity, including habitats, and protect threatened species, including by ending poaching and trafficking of endangered species;
- g) building on synergies and minimizing trade-offs between biodiversity conservation and sustainable agriculture, food security, livelihoods and nutrition;
- h) by 2030, ensure sustainable management of all forests and mountain ecosystems, halting deforestation and increasing reforestation by x%;
- i) reinforce incentives for developing countries to advance sustainable forests management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

Thank you for your attention.

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LESOTHO, H.E. MR. KELEBONE A. MAOPE, ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE 11<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs,**

**MAY 9, 2014**

**Focus area 15. Means of implementation/Global partnership for sustainable development**

**Focus area 16. Peaceful and inclusive societies, rule of law and capable institutions**

Co-Chairs,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group on Focus areas 15 and 16.

Co-Chair,

Under focus area 15, the African Group would like to propose the following three goals:

**Goal 1: Provide timely and effective development support to developing states**

**Targets**

**ODA**

1. By 2020, fulfil all commitments related to ODA to developing states.
2. make development assistance more effective and predictable by providing developing countries with regular and timely indicative information on planned support in the medium term
3. By 2020, eliminate all barriers to remittance flows to developing countries
4. By 2020, return all illicit financial resources to countries of origin

**Technology transfer**

5. Transfer environmentally sound technologies to developing countries and establish Global UN technology facilitation mechanism, as mandated by Rio+20
6. continue implementing the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,



7. In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries
8. Increase and support Developing countries use of TRIPS flexibilities
9. Reform the international intellectual property regime with a view to facilitate technological catch-up and improving health and education standards and food security in developing countries.

## **Trade**

10. Improve the climate for trade for developing countries, and ensuring that trade and trade rules work to the benefit of developing countries and to help meet their development objectives.
11. Develop an open, rules-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.
12. Ensure that trade and investment agreements encourage rather than discourage or detract from policy space in developing countries that is required for their development
13. By 2020, eliminate all trade protectionist measures to increase the volume of exports from developing states in particular African states -Africa contributes only 3% of global trade.
14. eliminate export subsidies for agricultural products in developed countries.

## **Debt**

15. Cancel external debt of heavily indebted poor countries (HIPCs) to reduce debt distress.
16. Ensure developing countries achieve debt sustainability through debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring

## **Goal 2: Address systemic issues and create an international enabling environment**

### **Targets**

1. By 2020, reform all international institutions to make them more democratic and increase representation of developing countries in their decision-making structures,
2. Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm setting bodies, and undertake reform of the

governance structures of those institutions in order to ensure more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions

3. Strengthen regulation of financial markets and institutions to ensure global financial stability,

4. Control and regulate speculation in the commodities markets, including by ensuring favourable terms for commodity-dependent Domestic Companies in contracts with Trans-National Companies to enable them to add more value to commodities and obtain more revenues from commodity-related activities,

5. Reform the international monetary system to support sustainable development and address shortcomings in the exchange rate and the international reserves systems

6. By 2020, strengthen capacities of national institutions to enable them respond to the needs of Member States

7. Eliminate all conditionalities for lending and access to other forms of support to developing states

**Goal 3: By 2020, monitor and report commitments on the means of implementation in support of SDGs in Africa.**

#### **Target**

1. Track existing international commitments, identify gaps and obstacles at all levels in the fulfilment of official development assistance, market access (trade), debt sustainability, access to environmentally sound technologies and medicines.

Co-Chairs,

Under focus area 16, the Group emphasizes the importance of peace and security in Africa. The Group highlights the direct linkage between development and peace, security and stability not only on the continent but also in the rest of the world. There can never be development in the absence of peace and stability in the same way there can never be peace and stability in the absence of development. Peace, stability and development are dependent on each other. To put it differently, stable and peaceful societies are enabling conditions for sustainable development as well as the actual outcomes of sustainable development. Because we acknowledge existence of peace and security as indispensable to sustainable development, Africa will continue to work with the international community to prevent out breaks of armed conflicts, and to promote local solutions to local problems.

Co-Chairs,

We therefore wish to clarify our understanding of peaceful and inclusive societies, which, from our perspective, are the outcomes of ongoing management and governance of societies. In other words, the realization of peaceful and inclusive societies is not an end in itself, but rather a means to achieving durable peace and security as the overall goal.

Co-Chairs,

For us in Africa, building stable and peaceful societies requires actions on poverty, inequality and governance. As poverty is both a cause and consequence of instability and conflict, the world cannot achieve peaceful and inclusive societies, without fully addressing it in its multidimensional forms. Poverty engenders inequality, which in turn undermines efforts which are aimed at creating peaceful and inclusive societies.

Environmental degradation especially climate change has become one of the main drivers of instability and violent conflicts in our region. Today, the scrambles for limited fresh water resources and pasture are causing violent confrontations in some African countries. And to prevent or limit these conflicts caused by natural conditions, we all have to work together and restore the ecosystems and to build the resilience of the poor.

Urgent solutions to these challenges are necessary because there can never be happiness nor contentment in hunger and diseases. No pride in unemployment or satisfaction in losing crops and animals due the adverse impacts of climate change. Attainment of sustainable peace and stability will remain difficult in situations of want.

Moreover, African states are today undermined by both internal and external actors pursuing different and in most cases conflicting agendas with those pursued by our States. Domestic and transnational organized crimes have increased.

Co-Chairs,

As underscored during the stock-taking exercise, the African Group advises that we should approach concepts such as “rule of law” with great caution because they are yet to be accorded universally agreed definition.

The Group wishes to reiterate that the consideration of the rule law shall not in any case undermine the full respect of national sovereignty and cultural values, national political and

socio-economic realities of each State as well as the ability of all societies to make choices in a democratic way in line with their national priorities, legal regimes and obligations emanating from regional and international treaties to which they are parties.

We also note that proposals contained under focus area 16 of the working document failed to capture the international dimensions of issues under consideration.

I thank you for your kind attention.