

AOSIS Interventions for the 10th OWG SDGs

Monday 31 March 2014

Distinguished Co-chairs,

Nauru on behalf of AOSIS conveys our gratitude to you for your leadership for providing the annotated focus areas and the document on interlinkages.

AOSIS aligns itself with the statement delivered by Bolivia on behalf of G77 and China.

For us, we can work with these focal areas and are looking forward to providing substantive propositions and support progress towards the elaboration of goals and targets.

Acknowledge that these documents are guidance and synthesis of key elements conveyed in the past sessions.

It is our understanding the proposed clusters are only intended to facilitate discussions in the most efficient way; they do not, in any way, prejudge the final list of SDGs. With that understanding, we are satisfied with working with the clusters as set forth.

While starting our complex and ambitious work of designing universally applicable goals and their relevant targets, AOSIS would like to stress the following:

1. Acknowledge further that countries in particular situations, in particular SIDS remain a special case for sustainable development

2. Goals and targets will not be met without proper means of implementation. These include provision of sufficient, additional and predictable financial resources to developing countries, including SIDS; provision of appropriate technology and corresponding know-how; as well as human and institution capacity building. Provision of the means of implementation is paramount to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of developing countries, in particular SIDS, in transforming their economies for inclusive social development and environmental sustainability. Means of implementation should be attached to each and every goal.

3. Stress the importance of:

Time-bound implementation

Measureable progress by all stakeholders

Encourage the efforts of the international community by including “actionable measures”, and not just focused on indicators as results (which depends on measures for various stakeholders, not just the governments).

On methodology; defining goals and targets

The focus areas discuss “resilience” only in the context of climate change. But to effectively address poverty eradication, the framework needs to be guided by a quest for resilient development. This implies resilient economies, resilient ecosystems, and resilient societies, taking into consideration the particularities of countries in special situations. Most importantly, the root cause of climate change needs to be urgently dealt with including through scaling up investment in clean, safe and modern energy, and other means to significantly reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Moreover, we need to maintain carbon sinks such as oceans and forests and call on the support of the international community.

Poverty eradication; Promote equality

SDG framework should be a people-centered and focused approach to poverty eradication, job creation, income equality, engendering equality, and achieving environmental sustainability.

Agree that progress on poverty eradication is linked to all other focus areas.

SDGs should promote inclusivity and shall include citizens and local communities, particularly those in special case countries, participation in decision-making on social development policies and programmes.

Universal poverty eradication implies targeted approach to countries in particular situation, in particular SIDS, and acknowledgement of their unique characteristics, challenges and vulnerabilities and the ongoing impact of these on their ability to achieve sustainable development.
