

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK

New York, 15 December 2011 CHeck Against Delivery General Assembly, UNCSD, Second Informal Intersessional Meeting Statement by Georg Sparber, Second Secretary Discussion on the compilation document: comments and guidance for the zero draft of the outcome document

Mr. Chairman,

In Liechtenstein's view, the zero draft should lay the ground for a concise and clear political outcome that will secure political commitment at the highest level to accelerate and broaden the world-wide transition towards a green economy which promotes sustainable development and contributes to poverty eradication. For this, we will need a high-impact document that continues to put the UN at the center of efforts to meet global challenges and which raises public awareness and engagement for sustainable development.

The zero draft must acknowledge the green economy as a pathway to sustainable development. It should contain a green economy roadmap with common goals, measures and timelines and be accompanied by a toolkit containing a range of policy options. It should also lay the foundation for the development of green economy indicators that complement GDP as a measure of growth.

We believe there is no sustainable development without good governance, rule of law and respect for human rights. This requires addressing the important link between rule of law and economic opportunity. An environment of stability resulting from the equal promotion and protection under the law can unlock the potential of new economic actors, such as women, the poor, and the marginalized. The zero draft should acknowledge these aspects.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have the potential to address problems of integration and implementation of the current framework for sustainable development. The zero draft should contain a clear mandate to work towards SDGs, which should complement but not create overlaps with the MDGs.

A strengthened and consolidated IFSD should be designed to deliver results, coordinate efforts and monitor progress on sustainable development. To secure implementation of commitments, the zero draft should launch a platform to bring together current sustainable development activities, best practice examples and approaches of different stakeholders and establish a monitoring mechanism - for example a peer review. The transformation of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) into a Sustainable Development Council (SDC), subsidiary to the General Assembly, could fulfill many functions, including these.

In order to address the gaps and weaknesses of the current IEG system, the zero draft must contain a package of reform measures aimed at strengthening UNEP, which should include the option of upgrading UNEP to the status of a UN Specialized Agency.

While some progress has been made in coordinating and streamlining MEAs, the outcome should provide a solid basis to further work to this end, for instance for joint delivery of common MEA services and back-to-back meeting schedules, so that smaller countries are better able to participate and follow those processes.

In addition, the outcome could establish a complementary long-term global registry of voluntary national, subnational and multi-stakeholder commitments on sustainable development, accompanied by an appropriate follow-up mechanism.

Finally, we would like to see the multi-stakeholder inputs taken into account by the secretariat in their drafting exercise.

We look forward to an open, transparent and inclusive negotiation process.

I thank you.

