



**PERMANENT MISSION OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**AT THE UN SUMMIT FOR THE ADOPTION
OF THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

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Good Morning Chairmen.

It gives me great pleasure to be here for this auspicious occasion, which signifies our continued commitment to improve the lives of our people.

It has not been an easy task to prepare for a global action plan acceptable to all.

So, I would like to thank our Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and his team for their dedication in helping member states shape and adopt the post-2015 development agenda.

Chairmen,

The 70th anniversary of the UN is very timely for us to reflect on our work since the Millennium Summit in 2000 and at the same time, look beyond 2015.

We are encouraged with what we have achieved so far with the Millennium Development Goals.

The world has witnessed the decline in extreme poverty; an increase in access to primary education in developing regions; and improvements in child as well as maternal health.

These show that the target-oriented approach is practical and feasible.

At the same time, we note that there has been uneven progress worldwide.

This means there are more for us to do.

I am therefore, pleased that our Secretary-General has presented a new development agenda, covering targets, which are built upon the MDGs and also new ones to address gaps of the past 15 years.

Chairmen,

What is reassuring is that the Sustainable Development Goals are people-centred, inclusive and comprehensive.

They focus on people; planet; prosperity; peace; and partnership.

To implement them, we have to enhance our individual and collective action.

Furthermore, we have to work in partnership through capacity building; learning from each other's experiences; and sharing best practices.

We have a challenging task ahead of us but I am optimistic that with our deep commitment, we would be able to deliver.

This is why Brunei Darussalam always values its cooperation with external partners both bilaterally and multilaterally.

We look forward to further strengthening our relations with various UN agencies to support our national development plans that are in line with the SDGs.

We also attach great importance to the work of ASEAN towards realising an ASEAN Community by 2015.

Later this year, ASEAN will adopt its own Post-2015 Vision, which will complement and support the global development agenda.

Chairmen,

Our task now is to focus on the transition from the MDGs to the SDGs, particularly for developing countries.

I also agree with the areas highlighted in the document, which present specific challenges to us.

I recognise that we all have different priorities and approaches.

But one thing we have in common is our commitment to place sustainable development at the core of our efforts to give our people a better life.

These include alleviating poverty; reducing inequalities; promoting quality education; addressing climate change; and achieving gender equality.

The SDGs have to be meaningful for every man, woman and child.

We need to give everyone the opportunity to make a difference.

It is especially pivotal for our youth to be included because they will inherit this new agenda.

I am very pleased that our new agenda has rightly emphasised their importance.

Furthermore, it will provide a platform for their empowerment through among others, universal access to quality education.

Overall, we cannot afford to leave anyone behind.

This is why investing in people is vital in our pursuit for the future that we want.

Chairmen,

We all aspire to see a better world for us and our future generations.

This needs our bold and urgent action.

So, our new agenda will provide a valuable roadmap for us to move forward.

For this to succeed, we must also ensure that peace and stability are maintained.

On this note, I am pleased to support the adoption of this post-2015 development agenda, and we stand ready to contribute to its success.

Thank you.