

**Statement by the delegation of Kazakhstan
at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
under the auspices of ECOSOC
New York, 7 July 2015**

This second meeting of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development meets during the 70th anniversary of the United Nations when bold new policy decisions will shape our future. We have reached agreement on the 17 proposed very ambitious sustainable development goals, with poverty eradication and the protection of our planet as the overarching objectives.

Going forward, the role of the HLPF, as the focal platform for follow up and review mechanism will be a defining and momentous one. The subject is vast but my delegation would like to highlight a few salient measures whereby the Forum fulfils its mandate to monitor one of the most important processes that the United Nations has embarked upon.

Firstly, to lay a firm foundation, we need to have a vision of the trajectory of the HLPF in three five-yearly phases for short, medium and long term planning. Secondly, the HLPF, which was and will continue to be inter-twined with the ECOSOC, must benefit and build on the deliberations of the ECOSOC system, as well as the wider UN system of UN funds, programmes and agencies, the World Bank, several development banks and other development focused international organizations. Coordinating with regional structures, such as EU, AU, CELAC, CARICOM, ESCAP, and their respective economic commissions, will bring result in all regions moving progressively towards the established goals and targets. Review processes at the regional level, such as the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable development, can serve as a bridge for the global commitments and national implementation and should therefore feed into and enrich the work of the HLPF.

Furthermore, the varying conditions between different countries demand that suitable indicators be developed through the use of reliable data and statistics provided by the UN Bureau of Statistics and its counterpart bodies of the UN system, as well as regional entities, such as ESCAP. Indicators and criteria are best if they are realistic, understandable, measurable, yet flexible and capable of achievable goals, accompanied by pragmatic timelines and priorities, without overburdening state institutions. It is important to assess patterns and trends that affect implementation of the SDGs in all sectors in a balanced manner. UN researches have suffered in that they only describe visible tangible evidence, such a mortality rates, school enrolments etc.

Governments, businesses and international organizations need to be held accountable to the people for results, not only for tracking progress, but shaping policy and implementation. There is a strong need to have feedback and/or inputs from all levels, utilizing fully the new potential of data and technology, not just for assessment, but also the wider participation of millions across the world as a global movement. Involving women and youth, as well as local communities, including the most vulnerable, will make possible obtaining more disaggregated and measurable data and indicators. Such stakeholder engagement at the national, regional and global levels will empower people to take hold of their destinies and encourage a common sense of ownership and accountability.

Appreciating the disadvantages among countries, the HLPF regard pay more attention to addressing the issue of capacity and institutional building of the countries in special situation such as LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS for implementing and achieving sustainable development, The lack of good quality national data and mechanisms that a large number of countries face needs to be addressed. Likewise, implementing monitoring and evaluation of SDGs must be aligned with the existing government-wide monitoring and evaluation system. This task could very well be undertaken by the United Nations regional Commissions, such as ESCAP.

Equally important to assess are the means of implementation that must primarily come from the developed countries. They go beyond finance and technology to also address global systemic issues, such as fair rules of trade and investment, sovereign debt restructuring, financial regulation, intellectual property rights and others. A just global order is a primary requisite. While the new challenges will require greater deployment of ODA, we believe that the HLPF will need to encourage North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.

Kazakhstan is committed to contribute to the efforts of the international community to shape a universal post-2015 development agenda that has a significant impact for humanity to transition to a truly sustainable, just and equitable future.

Thank you.