

STATEMENT BY MR. RIAZ HAMIDULAAH, DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, BANGLADESH AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPEMNT AGENDA

New York, 17 February 2015

Thank you, Mr. Co-facilitator.

Bangladesh aligns itself with the statements, delivered by South Africa, on behalf of G 77 and China, and Benin, on behalf of the LDCs.

We would like to thank the co-facilitators for the 'Elements Paper', as providing a basis for our reflection and discussions. Allow my delegation to briefly share some of our reflections on the political Declaration.

The Declaration would need to be guided by our commitment to global 'solidarity' and 'responsibility'. We concur with preceding delegations that the Declaration should be concise, communicable, ambitious. It should offer an easily understandable, comprehensive vision of development. We would add that its values, principles and elements have life and attraction to our peoples over fifteen years, and perhaps some beyond. Intensifying regional economic cooperation, for instance, should merit our attention in this regard. It should be embedded, among others, on right to development, peace and stability for sustainable development. Therefore, there will have to be a balance of issues, challenges and opportunities – of the present and future.

We should reflect on 'enabling environment' as well as 'institutions' – at all levels – and the critical issue of building 'capacity' - for those in need. For a significant countries, this is crucial to deliver right.

The RIO principles would need to be reaffirmed, in their entirety. The chapeau of the OWG Report, which was also based by and large on the Rio+20 outcome, should serve as a balanced template for the Declaration.

The Declaration should endorse the OWG Report, in its entirety.

Mr Co-facilitator,

As for 'universality' across the Agenda, application of universality should take into account the differentiated circumstances, capacities, national realities, and levels of development. And, also respect countries' national policies and priorities. Dynamic differentiation in action would be key. This would particularly be key for LDCs and climate-vulnerable countries. As much as it would be for eradication of extreme poverty and ending poverty in all its forms everywhere, it should also be to end 'inequality' within and among people and States. That is how the spirit and essence of '*no one left behind*' can be realised. Para 18 of the Chapeau could be worth noting in this context.

For the Declaration to capture people's aspirations and ambitions, we must boldly pronounce on challenges like climate change and population dynamics. Addressing these hold profound transformative potential over the next decades in regard to realisation of sustainable development and also preserving precious development gains in the developing world. Statements by a number of climate-vulnerable countries since this morning underscored this aspect.

In spelling out dimensions of 'sustainability', it should be for peoples of all segments - irrespective of their status, origin, level and so forth across the world. Cliché as it may be, our 'ambitions' and 'aspirations' are to be captured in a balanced and 'realistic' manner – in our efforts to bring about structural transformation.

In realisation of the Agenda, due 'policy space' at global levels as much as at national level has to be emphasised so that Member States at diverse levels of development can effectively adopt and mainstream the Goals and Targets into respective national development plans and strategies. This is important as we approach 'ownership'.

A renewed and revitalised global partnership for sustainable development has to be emphasized - not just focused on rule of law or, good governance. And here, mutual trust, mutual respect and mutuality of interests would be key for productive multi-stakeholder partnerships. Delivery on the means of implementation will require intense cooperation and commitments.

Mr Co-facilitator,

We recognize the six elements of the Secretary General's Synthesis Report with interest. We heard a number of countries and would underline that the proposed elements are approached with clear and acceptable understanding. Their consideration should not end up compromising the essence or content of the 17 Goals. 'Inter-connectedness' and 'inter-dependence' of the SDGs and balance in three dimensions of sustainability has to be underscored.

The Declaration should underscore a follow-up and review process, built upon existing mechanisms and make a special provision for mutual accountability of renewed global partnership.

We would look forward to suitable reflection of these in the upcoming *zero draft* end of the week.

I thank you.
