



ARMENIA

MAY 18-22, 2015

INFORMAL MEETING OF THE PLENARY ON THE PROCESS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA, PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 69/244 AND DECISIONS 69/550 AND 69/555, FOCUSING ON THE FOLLOW-UP AND REVIEW FRAMEWORK

REMARKS BY SOFYA SIMONYAN, PERMANENT MISSION OF ARMENIA TO UNITED NATIONS

We thank the distinguished co-facilitators for continuing to guide the process and for providing us with a Discussion Document to facilitate our debates on the universal follow-up and review framework. We also thank the speakers for the very insightful comments and suggestions they have been providing this week, and we share the view of those who spoke earlier about the importance of building a well-functioning, effective review framework that would be evidence and data-based, inclusive and transparent.

Mr. co-facilitator,

In designing a follow-up and review mechanism, we think we should be guided by what's most practical and effective, both in terms of the existing institutional set ups as well as additional reporting commitments the framework would entail. In this regard, our delegation would like to emphasize the importance of building synergies and maximizing effectiveness between existing monitoring mechanisms and frameworks, both within the UN as well as under other existing institutions and review processes, including those at the regional levels. It is important to avoid the risk of exposing member states to a "reporting fatigue" caused by proliferation of reporting mechanisms and duplication of efforts. It is, therefore, Armenia's view, that effectiveness should be the key principle in this exercise, and we believe that the HLPF is well positioned to ensure effective coordination of the accountability frameworks, to bring them in line with the overall context of the post-2015 development agenda.

To this aim, we look forward to the outcomes of the HLPF meeting this July to further define the follow-up and review architecture for the implementation of the post-2015 agenda and an effective and efficient international accountability framework it requires.

Mr. co-facilitator,

A successful review and follow-up mechanism is of particular importance to properly address the developmental needs of countries facing specific structural challenges, such as landlocked developing countries. The Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the decade 2014-2024 has been endorsed by the member states as a blueprint for the development of the LLDCs, and it will be important to take this document, in its six priority areas, into account in the process of formulation of the effective follow-up and review-mechanism for the post-2015 development agenda, as well as for the purposes of elaboration of the indicators at the global and regional level.

As outlined in Section 6 (paragraph 73) of the Vienna Programme of Action, follow-up and review should be a continuous process aimed at reinforcing partnerships and mutual accountability at all levels and by all actors. It is, therefore, important to give proper consideration to the implementation of the VPOA within a comprehensive reporting framework for the post-2015, involving multiple stakeholders responsible for the implementation of the Programme(including the transit countries).

For any follow-up and review mechanism to be successful, reliable, relevant and valid data for measuring progress is of utmost importance - at the global, regional and national levels. In this regard, we highlight the role of national statistical agencies in providing disaggregated quality data to track progress through a set of harmonized indicators. We, therefore, emphasize the importance of a renewed sense of commitment for partnerships and cooperation at multiple levels, to enhance national statistical capacities. We call on the member states to intensify efforts to strengthen international cooperation to build and improve statistical capacity and to ensure that a wide range of stakeholders are involved in the production and analysis of data.

We share the view that global indicators should be supported and supplemented by national and regional indicators. In this regard, we would like to highlight the added value of participation in various regional cooperation formats to facilitate information-sharing and capacity building, and we stand ready to provide support to this process, at all stages.

In conclusion, Mr. co-facilitator, our delegation would like to join others in suggesting that a Zero draft for the post-2015 development agenda should be made available as soon as possible, given the short time that remains in run-up to the Post-2015 Summit in September.

I thank you, Mr. co-facilitator.