

## **Priority areas for the Indigenous Peoples Major Group:**

Dear Co-chairs,

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG) congratulates you on the work you have done with the OWG and the focus areas document. We sympathize with your challenges and support you in this ambitious endeavor. We are very pleased to see that Indigenous Peoples are well recognized in the current zero draft and feel this is a response to the concerns we raised during OWG 11. It remains a priority for the Indigenous Peoples Major Group to emphasize the importance of specific references to Indigenous Peoples as distinct from marginalized groups.

### **On PG1:**

The IPMG strongly urges the co-chairs and member states to reconsider target 1.1 ( by 2030, eradicate extreme poverty by bringing the number of people living on less than \$1.25 a day to zero) and focus on a measure of **well-being rather than on income alone**. In addition, in relation to poverty eradication, we would like to highlight that Indigenous Peoples are disproportionately reflected among the very poor. This relates to lack of recognition of their land rights. We are urge amendment to target 1.5 with inclusion of “individual and collective rights” to [delete:own] land, property and other productive resources.

### **On PG3:**

The IMPG would like to reiterate the importance of our traditional health practices and reinstate the target on “dissemination of medical and public health knowledge, including traditional knowledge,” which was in the FA document of the OWG10. We would like to point out that the PG on health in its current version is geared towards dealing with existing public health issues and lacks targets on preventative measures. We can not underestimate the role of knowledge dissemination and education, therefore, we are again recommending the reinsertion of the previous target.

### **On PG4:**

We welcome the inclusion of target 4.6. However, one of the most important aspects in education for Indigenous Peoples is culture and this should be better reflected in the text. Therefore, the IMPG is asking to amend the target by including the words “access to inclusive and culturally appropriate education, skills development and vocational training” and we are also asking to eliminate the words “aligned with labor market needs”.

### **On PG 8.:**

We are generally supportive of these newly formulated targets and we are happy to see the target 8.14 (promote formalization of informal sector activities and employment). However, it's important to 1) clarify the “informal activities and employment” and 2) the target should not only to promote, but officially recognize traditional occupations as forms of employment. With this we propose to amend target the following way: “to officially recognize traditional occupations as forms of employment of Indigenous Peoples' and other communities' as essential to their well-being and livelihoods”

### **On PG 9:**

The IPMG would like to ask for clarification on target 9.10 - “promote indigenous technology development and the growth of domestic innovation in developing countries.” It is not quite clear whether the word “indigenous” used here refers to local technologies or to indigenous traditional knowledge. The difference is quite significant and we request an amendment to the target: “promote indigenous technology based on traditional knowledge and the growth of domestic innovation in developing countries.

**On PG 15:**

We welcome inclusion of the target requiring governments, business and corporations to recognize and adhere to principles of **Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)**. However, we noticed that the target to “ensure inclusion of indigenous and local communities in decision making, and promote traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples” has been eliminated from the focus area 15. We propose incorporating some of language of the eliminated target to the target on FPIC as decision-making and FPIC are closely related.