

Open working group on sustainable development goals-Final meeting

- a) Troika's Final statement (19 July, 2014)
- b) Cyprus concern on 14c (on national capacity)

Thank you Mr. Co-chair,

On behalf of our Troika, Cyprus, Singapore and UAE we would like to add our voice and commend you co-chairs for leading us where we are today and for presenting your report to us. It is our sincere hope that it will be adopted by consensus by our group.

For many of us, especially for those of us who have been working in troikas, these 17 months have been a lifetime experience and we would like to thank all colleagues but in particular I would like to thank my partners (Singapore-UAE) for the excellent cooperation we have had during this long period and of course to thank you once again co-chairs for your able leadership and commitment but especially for the enormous patience you have shown all these months , without which we wouldn't have been able to arrive at this result today. Next fall we expect the intergovernmental negotiations for the Post-2015 to start and today's outcome will be an important input in those negotiations. We're looking forward to constructively engage when the time comes.

Allow me now Mr. Co-chair on my national capacity to express a concern with regard to 14c on UNCLOS.

UNCLOS is the constitution of the oceans and seas. It enjoys near universal participation with 164 states parties and constitutes customary international law. It is the framework governing all activities in the oceans and seas. That's why any reference undermining these notions, is cause of concern to us.

Having said that, Mr. Co-chair, we, either on our national capacities or within our respective political groups, are ready to continue this work to bring it now, as China, said to the next level and to the General Assembly.