

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



SLOVENIA

**Statement
by**

**H.E. MR. ANDREJ LOGAR
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations**

**at the stocktaking session
Intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda**

New York, 19-21 January 2015

Thank you.

Slovenia aligns itself with the Statement by the European Union.

Co-facilitators,

Let me at the outset congratulate you both on your appointment. We will rely on your wisdom and experiences. They will guide us in our endeavours and we look forward to working closely with you during this important process.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Secretary-General for his strong leadership and previous co-facilitators as well as to our colleagues from Secretariat for their engagement and dedication to the process. I would also like to thank the civil society and other relevant stakeholder for their important contributions made so far.

Co-facilitators,

We would like to reaffirm our commitment to constructively participate in the intergovernmental process and contribute to its successful outcome. I believe that we do not have only a great opportunity, but also a great responsibility to address some of the crucial challenges in a really transformative manner and make our Planet a better and a safer place for everybody.

In recent years and months we have collectively made many important steps toward making universal, ambitious and inclusive agenda a reality. We welcome the proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, which shall be the main basis for integrating SDGs into the post-2015 agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will be also considered. In this context we also welcome the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Financing as well as the UN Secretary-General Synthesis Report, as a key contribution for the intergovernmental process.

Allow me to point out some crucial issues, which will be important for Slovenia during this intergovernmental process.

The post-2015 agenda should target the eradication of poverty in all its dimensions, including extreme poverty, and help ensuring sustainable development and prosperity for all within planetary boundaries. Furthermore, the new agenda should incorporate all three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner.

The crucial characteristic of the new agenda will be its universality. This will require commitments from all countries as well as all relevant stakeholders, while taking into account levels of development, national contexts and capacities and respecting national policies and priorities.

The focus of the new agenda should be on interrelation of poverty with other global challenges such as inclusive and sustainable growth, climate change, energy and food security, sustainable management and use of natural resources, water and sanitation, disaster resilience and risk management, health, social protection and inequalities. This should be based on a human rights based approach and should integrate a gender perspective. The new agenda should incorporate respect for human rights as a prerequisite for achieving sustainable development.

It is important that the new agenda will leave no one behind. In this context also gender equality, empowerment of women, the rights of children, elderly and other vulnerable groups will be essential conditions for the realization of the new agenda. Another strong component should also be the promotion of peace, rule of law, good governance and accountable institutions.

We believe that in the intergovernmental process a clear and concise framework should be created, which will be owned and implemented by all governments and all relevant stakeholders. It will be also important that the new framework will be supported and understood by the wider public.

The new framework should maintain the integrated approach of the OWG proposal for goals and targets. Nevertheless, further work remains to be done on some of the targets to ensure there is no duplication and to provide consistency with existing agreements and international legal frameworks. It is important that this exercise preserves the political balance of the OWG report and established inter-linkages across the three dimensions. Another essential area of work will be the definition of indicators that would facilitate implementation and monitoring.

Co-facilitators,

The new agenda will require a Global partnership, which will be truly inclusive and effective and based on shared responsibilities, mutual accountability and respective capacities. This partnership should mobilize strong actions by all governments and stakeholders. The private sector and civil society will be important partners in this endeavour. It will be also important that the final agreement on Global partnership will resemble strong and full consensus among all UN Member States.

To ensure effective and successful implementation of the new agenda we need to deliberate and agree on a broad range of actions and commitments. The Third Conference on Financing for Development is uniquely placed to address the full range of means of implementation. In this context, there should be complete coherence and coordination between FFD and post-2015 processes and a proposal to hold joint sessions seems a good way to ensure this is accomplished.

The post-2015 agenda should be also coherent with efforts to address the challenges of climate change. We need to avoid any duplication with the UNFCCC process and achieve that both processes are mutually supportive.

Effective implementation of the new agenda will also require the promotion of policy coherence for sustainable development at all levels.

We expect that the new agenda will incorporate a robust monitoring mechanism and accountability framework for effective and efficient tracking of progress in the implementation.

Co-facilitators,

We are now entering the final and most challenging phase of establishing the new post-2015 agenda. The stakes are high, but we need to stay optimistic. To come to a successful conclusion, we need to find practical ways to forge genuine trust among ourselves and cooperate effectively. It is our obligation to be ambitious and creative in finding the best solutions, but at the same time keeping in mind a pragmatic approach that will help us to meet the aspirations of the people.

Thank you.