Statement by Ambassador Oh Joon

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

'Synopsis of the process; how we got here' Stocktaking Session, Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

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Co-Facilitators
(Amb. David Donoghue and Amb. Macharia Kamau),
President Mr. Sam Kutesa,
Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon,
Excellencies,

First, with your able leadership, my delegation hopes that these intergovernmental negotiations will lead to a historic achievement. I would also like to commend the achievements from the past two years, including the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and the Secretary-General’s Synthesis Report.

The United Nations must be more relevant and responsive in the face of climate change, economic downturns, and conflicts. To continue the legacy of the MDGs and build on Rio+20, both people and planet must be at the very heart of the post-2015 development agenda.

People and planet should resonate throughout the outcome document and the implementation of the goals.
In this regard, I am encouraged by the Secretary-General’s presentation of the six essential elements to effectively communicate our vision and goals.

Having learned from our development process, the ROK particularly values education, gender equality, good governance, and the rule of law as enablers of development.
With our continued commitment to education, we will host the World Education Forum in Korea this May. We hope to incorporate its outcome into the post-2015 development agenda.

Similarly, the rule of law has been at the center of our development history. Sustained improvements in governance allow people to enjoy the benefits of economic development and motivate further growth, creating a virtuous cycle. We believe that the rule of law should be a key element in the declaration, and goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda. Our significant gains from development will be meaningless without a stable and peaceful society that can sustain our progress.

The effective monitoring and review of development goals is another priority for us. As well-articulated in the Secretary-General's Synthesis Report, we believe that a strong framework based on existing systems is necessary to move forward. The work of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) should be considered in this regard.

As for the means of implementation (MOI), we would like to emphasize the key role of ownership. In addition to the base of ODA commitments, it will be important to encourage the active participation of the private sector to develop innovative financing mechanisms. As we all look forward to the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, major issues regarding the means of implementation should be decided in Addis Ababa.

Last but not least, in line with keeping people at the center of the new development agenda, we must ensure sustained participation of all stakeholders. Efforts should be continued to facilitate opportunities for non-governmental stakeholders to provide input, and to ensure that due time and consideration is given to their contributions.

Mr. Co-facilitator,

2015 will be a landmark year with the Conference on Financing for Development in July, the Post-2015 Summit in September, and COP 21 in December. As the three processes are closely linked in substance, cooperation will be crucial in carrying our collective momentum through, for mutual-reinforcement. I look forward to this synergized approach as we take on these critical issues to forge a more sustainable and equitable planet for the future generations.

Thank you.