

**Statement by H.E. Omar HILALE, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations, on behalf of the African Group, at the informal meeting of the plenary on stocktaking in the process of Intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda.
19 January 2015**

Distinguished Co-facilitators,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group.

The African Group associates itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of South Africa to United Nations on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

The African Group wishes to emphasize that the intergovernmental negotiation process on the post-2015 Development Agenda should be transparent and inclusive, while fully respecting the procedures and established practices of the General Assembly. In the same way, the process should be conducted and led by Member States according to the resolutions and decisions on modalities for intergovernmental negotiations

The African Group reiterates that the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals should be the main basis for the integration of goals and targets in the post-2015 development agenda, while it should also take into account other relevant outcomes of various processes mandated at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

The African Group considers that the Secretary-General's synthesis report could also serve us as an inspirational document but it does not constitute the basis for the intergovernmental negotiations.

Co-facilitators

As was the case in the Millennium Declaration, the African Group believes that it is important that the goals and targets contained in the report of the Open Working Group should be accompanied by a political declaration.

The Group also stresses the need for a coherent approach to the post-2015 development agenda, which would strengthen the commitment of the international community to eradicate poverty, create synergies between all processes and strengthen the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner.

The group believes that the post-2015 development agenda should be broader than that of the Millennium Development Goals and to be focused on the promotion of economic, social and environmental development in a balanced manner. The post-2015 agenda should include areas and fields that are essential to achieving sustainable development and have to meet all the gaps identified in the MDGs.

The African Group stresses the importance of establishing a new phase of international cooperation for a sustainable development based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

The Group reiterates that the North-South cooperation remains at the heart of this partnership. South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation will serve as a useful complement to North-South cooperation.

The African Group would like to underline that the implementation of the Agenda will certainly depend on the financing of development. Therefore the strategy of financing for sustainable development will require, among many other things, the following: encouraging reinvestment of the proceeds from foreign direct investment; holding external partners accountable for their commitments including allocation of 0.7% Gross National Income (GNI) to international development; and encouraging Official Development Assistance (ODA) in short, medium and long-term development.

The Group believes that technology is a key means of implementation of sustainable development programs. We must reach a conclusion during our negotiations on possible arrangements for a technology facilitation mechanism, transfer and diffusion of clean and green technology with the proposals contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the summary of the President of the 68th General Assembly.

The African Group recalls the need to focus on ways to further strengthen the commitment of the international community to eradicate poverty by 2030 and achieve the three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced

manner. This could be reached during the negotiations by adopting a consistent approach and actively participating in the development of the funding process and options for United Nations technology facilitation mechanism.

The Group reaffirms the importance of understanding poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon and therefore the fight against poverty in all its forms must remain central and overarching objectives of the post-2015 development agenda.

The African group will engage with all member states to develop a comprehensive framework that includes technology and skills transfer, and takes into account the specific/Unique characteristics of Africa notably her dependency on land for survival but which is being threatened by the continuous loss of agricultural land due to desertification, land degradation and drought; promoting public-private partnerships; promoting access of Africa to world markets and ensure that the architecture of global governance is inclusive, responsive, legitimate, democratic, fair and responsible. As was the case during the Sustainable Development Goals negotiations, so will the Common African Position (CAP) be instrumental and indispensable in the Post-2015 development agenda negotiations.

In conclusion, the African Group would like to express its willingness to engage constructively in the ongoing negotiations and to reaffirm its full support and confidence in your leadership as co-facilitators with the aim of reaching a conclusion in the context of the agenda post-2015 development.

I thank you