

Draft statement by H.E. Tekeda Alemu, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, at the 1st Segment of Intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda.

19 January 2015

Distinguished Co-facilitators,

Let me start by thanking you both for bringing us to this point, to where we are now. I don't wish to repeat what others who took the floor before me have said, all the more because our views are aligned with the statements of the group of 77 and China, the Africa group, the LDCs and LLDCs as presented respectively by our colleagues, the Permanent Representatives of South Africa, Morocco, Benin and Niger.

What I wish to do therefore is to highlight a few points which in our view require stressing,

First, by way of general remark, I wish to repeat what the PGA said this morning with respect to how the circumstances we are, in this process, accords us a historic opportunity. The process that was kicked off by the Rio+20 outcome document, The Future We Want, has indeed opened up opportunities that need to be seized. But obviously this is going to require a great deal of political will and the required mindset, for what we face as a challenge is to bring about a paradigm change in international development cooperation which calls for greater commitment to people-centered economic and social development

which is sensitive to the need to protect our planet. Here it is critical to take note of the fact that in recent years there has been a trend which needs to be reversed in connection with international cooperation in favor of the Least Developed Countries and Africa. Recent figures on ODA make this obvious. The Synthesis report has indicated what needs to be done in this connection .We endorse it.

The second issue I wish to raise is related to what the Secretary-General said this morning with respect to the means of implementation. He said it is the test whether the Post - 2015 Development Agenda we are working towards would succeed or not. He was absolutely correct when he said what is required is concrete and ambitious program. Obviously, that is why the July Addis Ababa Conference is so critical and why the success of the post -2015 development agenda is very much contingent upon the success of what Addis Conference. It is with that conviction that we in Ethiopia are proceeding with the preparation to discharge our responsibilities as host. Let me point out here that in fact the Report of the Intergovernmental Expert Committee, as much as it contains very many good ideas and offers options essentially based on what was contained in the Monterrey Consensus, has not nonetheless offered to us a concrete framework for means of implementation. That is a work that awaits us for completion in Addis.

Distinguished Co-facilitators,

We have indeed come a long way. What has been achieved by the OWG has been commendable and both the **Co-facilitators and member states should be congratulated for that. Those Seventeen goals and targets are the result of**

extended and intense negotiations. It is our hope, as agreed, the integrity of the outcome of the work of the OWG would be maintained and that they would serve as the main basis for our negotiation which has gotten under way today.

The Synthesis report of the Secretary General along with the Report of the Intergovernmental Expert Committee on Sustainable Development Finance and others, including the General Assembly structured dialogues on possible arrangements for facilitation mechanism to promote the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies would be useful inputs. The Synthesis report could have highlighted more issues related to global governance and related matters concerning norm setting and the constellation of factors which are Systemic. A conducive global environment for development is a major challenge which requires a lot of good will to make progress on.

The work that we are beginning today is indeed critical, and, in fact, with a potential to be historic. We have no doubt; we can succeed, if we summon all the good will that we are capable of marshaling.