

Save the Children's Statement on the 'Declaration' Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda Thursday 19 February 2015

Introduction

1. Thank-you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Wang Le from Save the Children in China.

No target met unless met for all

- 2. <u>It is my privilege to speak to a Global Civil Society Statement</u>, endorsed by 3,200 organizations worldwide from six continents calling for the commitment that no target should be considered met unless met for all.
- 3. Inequalities are not an inevitable outcome of development. If we are to recognize the truly transformative potential of the new agenda we must embed equity at its core. No one must be left behind by virtue of their gender, age, disability, income, geography or ethnicity.
- 4. We urge Member States to put the principle of 'leave no one behind' into practice by ensuring that the Declaration includes the criterion that **"no target should be considered met unless it is met for all social and economic groups."**

Prioritize action for the poorest and most marginalized people

- 5. <u>Speaking on behalf of Save the Children</u>, the Declaration must emphasize the need to prioritize action for the poorest and most marginalized people <u>first</u>, including the poorest and most vulnerable children.
- 6. The success of the future agenda will not only be measured by the extent to which we leave no one behind, but indeed the extent to which we put the 'furthest behind first' whether they live in low, high or middle-income countries including my own country, China.
- 7. We encourage Member States to adopt national interim equity targets to ensure that we reduce gaps between advantaged and disadvantaged groups across all goals by an interim date such as 2022.

The Need for Disaggregated Data

8. Finally, it will be impossible to put the furthest behind first, nor ensure that targets are met by all groups without the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data, and this should also be reaffirmed in the Declaration.

Conclusion

9. In conclusion, we are encouraged by Member States' commitment to end extreme poverty in a generation. You have the opportunity but more importantly, the responsibility to realize this vision and to fulfil the Millennium's Declaration's 'duty to the... children of the world, to whom the future belongs.'