

## **Speaking Points**

### **Discussion Document for Declaration**

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- We would like to thank you for the good discussion document. In our view, it **reflects very well the discussions** we have had in the last two days.

3 aspects we appreciate very much, and 3 aspects for which we still see room for improvement.

What is **good**:

- We welcome in particular that the discussion document is concise but at the same time reflects the most important **key elements**, including **poverty eradication** and the need to achieve sustainable development, the role of **peaceful and inclusive societies, rule of law** and **good governance** for sustainable development and the commitment to the principle of **“leaving no one behind”**.
- We also welcome that the Discussion Document makes important reference to **climate change**, since the SDGs cannot be achieved if we do not efficiently tackle the climate challenge.
- We also welcome the given reference to **follow-up and review** of progress and the role of the **HLPF**. We should stipulate the Member States’ commitment to monitor and review progress in the declaration.

What should be **strengthened (3 aspects)**:

- **Environmental dimension**: can still be strengthened, as the protection of our planet, the only one we have, is a precondition to ensure poverty eradication and sustainable development for current and future generations within planetary boundaries.
- **Inequality, including gender inequality**: We welcome that the document recognizes the need for equality as a fundamental element and part of the vision. However, we believe that the aspect of gender inequalities can still be strengthened, while recognizing that women are drivers of Sustainable Development.
- **The Reference to Addis Ababa** is important. We believe that Addis will deliver on the new Global Partnership and the set of means of implementation. We expect the declaration to explicitly recognize the Addis Ababa outcome in this sense. This is all the more needed if we are serious in striving for an ambitious outcome in Addis.

**Quick remark on the Form**

- We fully support your endeavor to have a **short declaration** that does not exceed three pages.
- To make sure that the declaration speaks to everybody, including 13 years old Dutch girls, we have to pack the elements in the discussion paper into a respective narrative and language.

## 6 elements:

- We are of the opinion that the six elements of the Secretary General's Synthesis Report capture the different aspects of our vision and of the universal nature of the agenda. It therefore provides an easily comprehensible basis to frame the declaration.
- Perhaps we could phrase the six elements as **actions**. This would mean, for example, that instead of "people", the element could be named: "put people at the center and leave no one behind". And the element "planet" could be phrased as "protect the planet".
- And finally would like to ensure that, *if* we speak of a reduction of the Secretary General's "elements", not to give up on the important element of "justice".