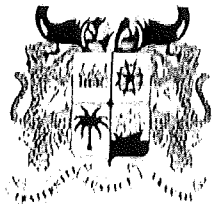


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*Permanent Mission of
the Republic of Benin
to the United Nations*

SIXTY NINETH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
“INDICATORS FOR GOALS AND TARGETS”**

**STATEMENT
BY**

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
CHAIR OF THE GLOBAL COORDINATION BUREAU OF LDCs**

NEW YORK, 23 MARCH 2015

Distinguished Co-Chairs
 Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of LDCs. The group aligns itself with the statement made by South Africa on behalf of the G77 and China.

At the outset, allow me to commend the Permanent Representatives of Kenya and Ireland for convening this session on the intergovernmental negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

The Group of LDCs would like to iterate that the outcome of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals should be integrated into the Post-2015 development agenda in its entirety, although we have serious concerns about the means of implementation especially elaborated under goal 17. We are hoping that the Third United Nations Conference on Financing for Development will provide us with an opportunity to strike a balance between the goals and targets and the means of implementation with a new package of additional resources and new mechanisms.

The Group of LDCs is of the view that any attempt to reopen the outcome of the OWG-SDGs in the name of “technical and scientific proofing” would run a serious risk of further diluting the existing balance in the text, which was made and agreed upon so painstakingly and delicately in an all inclusive process that lasted almost 18 months. We believe that there is still room for making the post-2015 development agenda further ambitious in some areas and this should be done in the ongoing exercise on developing the indicators, formulating the political declarations and articulating the follow-up and monitoring mechanism.

The Group of LDCs accords a special priority to the development of high-quality and innovative indicators that gives a strong impetus for effective and efficient actions. This is no doubt a technical process which requires time and needs to be conducted carefully leveraging all available information, knowledge, tools and techniques.

This process should be carried on under the political supervision of the two Co-facilitators and their technical support team in the DESA. They should provide political guidance in the spirit of the Rio+20 Commitments and the General Assembly Legislative Corpus related to issues in connection with the SDGs and the Targets.

The involvement of the national statistical offices (NSOs) in the development of indicators is vitally important and should play the leading role in developing an indicator framework. The participation of the NSOs from LDCs needs to be ensured in all relevant meetings on indicators. The determination of the indicators should be conducted in a multi-stakeholder approach involving scientific resources organizations including those working on geospatial mapping using Geographic Information Systems, which can enlighten the process with their findings.

The Group of LDCs appreciates the submission of the working drafts of the technical report by the Bureau of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) on the process of the development of an indicator framework for the goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda. This is under review by our experts in New York as well as in our respective capitals. As an immediate reaction to the draft, the Group would like to suggest that there are still a lot to do in this exercise. Let me take this opportunity to make few concrete proposals, notwithstanding the fact that the Group does not consider the current format of the indicators to be integrative enough.

The Group recognizes the endeavors to bring up measurable values to back the goals and targets. This exercise should be based on a thorough understanding of the context and the transformative dimension of the goals which should guide the identification of the indicators. The proposed indicators should be assessed against these yardsticks. Where clear benchmarks exist and rest on a sound legislative and consensual basis, the indicators should take account of them.

In indicator 10.6.1, the Group would like to add, LDCs after developing countries in the second line. And the target should read as follows: "Percentage of voting rights in international organizations of developing countries and LDCs".

Under target 15.4, we need clear emphasis of Land and soil utilization measures including trends in land cover and land use trends, land productivity change and soil organic carbon change.

Under target 17.3 entitled "mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources" an indicator could be set to quantify the volume of resources mobilized from various sources in addition to ODA.

Under target 17.4 on debt sustainability, an indicator could be added to represent the number of countries under debt distress situation and the total quantity of outstanding debts by LDCs.

Under target 17.5 on investment promotion regime for LDCs, the indicators should be set in line with paragraph 45 of the UNGA resolution 69/231 comprising five key components, namely access to information on existing investment facilities and foreign direct investment support programmes, technical support to assist the least developed countries in negotiating complex large-scale contracts, access to and further strengthening of advisory support in investment related dispute resolution, risk insurance and guarantees, and finally regulatory and legal frameworks.

Under target 17.8, on the operationalization of the technology bank for LDCs, target should be set on the three core functions of the bank in the form of number of projects implemented under (i) patent banks in the form of technology transfer, (ii) Science, Technology and Innovation capacity building and (iii) Science and technology research depository facility and global networking. Another target should be set on the share of ODA going to technology related activities in LDCs through technology bank.

Under target 17.11 on doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020, an indicator should be set on the share of LDCs exports in the global exports.

Under target 17.12 on ^{DFQF} market access and simplified rules of origin, an indicator could be set on the specific measures undertaken by the developed and developing countries in realizing simplified and transparent preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from LDCs.

The indicator put under target 17.14 on policy coherence let us think the core issue of policy coherence is not well understood. It is a core systemic issue. The poverty that the billion bottom of Humanity is subject the result of the global economic system of wealth concentration that keeps the poverty trap open. We need policy coherence at all level to prevent that what is given in the morning is not taken in the evening in many folds. This call is relevant from trade relationships to relationships in the extractive industries, to monetary relationships, to the management of debt sustainability, and I can continue the list.... We need policy coherence to give a meaning to the motto leave no one behind and to claim of our common Humanity and our call for equity in the international relations as a basis for peace and shared prosperity.

As I have mentioned before, these are our partial proposals, which I would recommend the concerned offices to reflect in the working draft of the indicators. We will submit our additional proposals in due course.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that the need for real time data will be a key element of objective decision-making and the raw materials for accountability. The 46th session of the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC), which was held in New York at the beginning of this month, addressed the issue of data in support of the post-2015 development agenda. The Commission has insisted on the need for investments to enhance national statistical capacity, especially in the least developed countries (LDCs). The Group would reiterate that the UN system should help strengthening national statistical capacities of LDCs to develop their national databases that contain national and international data on post-2015 development agenda with related metadata that are available to all interested users.

I thank you all for your kind attention.