

**PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

Statement by Under-Secretary for Global Development
Cooperation, Denmark Mr. Morten Jespersen on behalf of Denmark

**Intergovernmental negotiations on the
post-2015 development agenda
23-27 March 2015**

**Denmark's remarks at interactive dialogue
with major groups**

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- Thank you for opportunity to respond to the reflections by major groups regarding the development of indicators. We think this engagement is a crucial part of developing a comprehensive and transformational post-2015 development agenda for all people and we support the co-facilitators in continuing the dialogue and inclusion.
- I would like to react to just a few elements knowing that it will not make justice to the many important considerations put forward by the representatives from major groups. These relate to leave no one behind, human rights and the need to draw on the expertise of non-state actors in particular civil society.
- First, we believe that leaving no one behind should be at the core of our action, monitoring and review of the post-2015 agenda. We should ensure that no person – wherever they live and regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, religion or belief, race or other status is denied universal human rights and basic economic opportunities. Leaving no one behind goes to the core of eradicating extreme poverty, fighting inequality and ensuring that every person has equal rights and opportunities to make the most of their lives.
- In terms of indicators, we fully support that ‘no target should be considered met unless met for all social and economic groups. Disaggregation of data by at least income, gender and age will be key in this regard. Other factors such as race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location will also strongly support targeting our efforts and indicating whether we are on track to meet the targets for all relevant groups.

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- Second, indicators should be strongly based on human rights. This would mean not just to quote the “right” but to ensure that indicators as well as goals and targets are based on a human rights based approach.

To mention an example: In the case of education, “universal access” has little meaning if we do not include the aspect of quality education. Or that we do not ensure that children affected by conflict and humanitarian situations are able to go attend school. And another aspect, something as basic as access for girls to sanitary facilities in schools will go a very long way.

- Last. As said in my intervention yesterday, Denmark believes that indicators should be based on technical expertise and developed in a transparent and participatory process. In this regard, we encourage drawing on the valuable expertise of a broader set of non-actors including the civil society both for the development of indicators and for the subsequent monitoring and review. Non-state actors can provide valuable expertise and information regarding the conditions for the poorest and most marginalized groups as well as people living in remote areas.
- The private sector has access to valuable data, which can be crucial for assessing progress and understanding gaps in implementation. It will be important though to further discuss the challenges of independence and accountability of data as also stated by the Friends of the Chair and expert Advisory group on a data revolution.