

## **Post-2015 IGN session on declaration 17 to 20 February 2015**

### **Statement on 17th February by Ambassador Riitta Resch, Finland**

Mr. Co-facilitator

Finland aligns herself with the EU statement.

The declaration is an integral part of the Post-2015 agenda and as such should be an introduction to the rest of the agenda. It must be people centered and take the planet fully into account. It must include values that are important to us. It must be based, like the whole agenda, on human rights, non-discrimination, gender equality, human rights of women and girls and their empowerment, democratic governance and rule of law among other things. It must have the issues of universality and shared responsibility at its core. It must focus, like the whole agenda, on poverty eradication and sustainable development and emphasize the integration of three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner and respect for planetary boundaries.

We must also take into account that there is no development without peace and security and vice versa and neither one of these two is possible without promotion of and respect for human rights. This was clearly emphasized already in the Millennium Declaration. So we must include aspects of peace and security also into our declaration to be able to fully promote poverty eradication and sustainable development in the next 15 years. It is important not only in fragile and conflict affected societies but in all our societies where security of human beings is one of the basic values.

We need a transformative and comprehensive agenda to implement the sustainable development goals that we have discussed and also we need strong means of implementation and a new global partnership to do this. We need these aspects also to be reflected in the declaration. The declaration must be forward looking and innovative but based on the work that has been done so far – not so much by repeating the past declarations but by adopting the spirit and political will that has gone in their implementation.

An important part of the implementation is the monitoring and accountability at all levels. A decision on the monitoring mechanism, including the HLPF, should be part of the agenda and reflected in the declaration. It should be based on the multi stakeholder participation. Most important part of the implementation happens at the national level and therefore national ownership is crucial. This is a way how our own nationals will also become a part of the agenda and its implementation.

Because of the universal nature of the agenda we all have to adapt and make changes when the time comes for its implementation. We hope that this will happen also at the UN and in the whole UN system. Transformation is the word here too.

We look forward to your next version of the elements paper to go deeper into discussions on the declaration.

Thank you.