

UN General Assembly  
Inter-Governmental Negotiations on the  
Post-2015 Development Agenda  
Follow-up and Review

**New Zealand Statement**

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Check against delivery

## Co-Facilitators

The post-2015 development agenda is universal and applicable to all countries - big and small, developed and developing, SIDS, LLDCs, LDCs, fragile and conflict affected.

Therefore the follow-up and review mechanism that we set in place for the agenda needs to realistically reflect this diversity of experience and capacity.

## Co-Facilitators

If we wish to leave no country and no people behind in the post-2015 development agenda, then a critical aspect of follow-up and review is ensuring that we are able to identify gaps in implementation and fill these as quickly as possible.

To do so, the follow-up and review mechanism must not only be “lean and not mean”, it must be simple, nimble and effective.

Let’s start with simple.

The process that countries use to analyse data and report should not be complicated – if it’s not simple, it won’t happen.

Data is not updated continuously. New data becomes available in response to specific events – for example a census or a household income and expenditure survey – or as part of normal record-keeping which is reported upon periodically – for example exam results, births, immunisation, fish caught and sold, taxes raised.

This information is reported through existing mechanisms. If existing reporting mechanisms are capturing what we need to know, then we shouldn’t create new mechanisms. We should draw on existing sources.

Next, let’s think about being nimble.

The most important information we need from a follow-up and review mechanism isn’t about what is being achieved – this will come to light

naturally. What we really need to know is where we are lagging behind and what we can do to catch up.

Being nimble means identifying the gaps in as real time as possible, identifying who is being left behind and responding in a timely manner.

Finally, how can we be effective?

We need to be focused. The post-2015 development agenda is a big agenda, so we need to break it down into digestible portions. We shouldn't try to cover the full agenda every time we meet to review and follow-up on progress.

We could start with the unfinished business of the MDGs as this data has been collected for a while so we're not starting from scratch. We should then turn progressively to the new elements included in the SDGs.

We could also group SDGs around particular themes, such as those proposed in the Secretary General's synthesis report.

We need to make best use of the Regional Commissions. It's at the regional and sub-regional levels – where developing countries and their Northern and Southern development partners meet – that we can best focus on the gaps and ways of addressing them.

And if we can't resolve the gaps there, then we can bring our challenges to the global level and consider them at the High Level Political Forum.

Each year, the HLPF should receive analysis of progress, identification of gaps and recommendations for filling these. Whether this is done comprehensively (encompassing all SDGs) or thematically (for example using the themes from the Secretary General's Synthesis Report) or progressively (for example dealing with a quarter of the SDGs each year over a four year period so that the four year Ministerial HLPF has a full set of reporting upon which to reflect) is something we should discuss further. We believe, however, that Member States should not be obligated to submit reports to the HLPF. Reporting should be on a voluntary basis with peer pressure bringing any laggards to the table.

Co-facilitators,

Reporting mechanisms are in place for the MDGs; let's use these as the basis for reporting global progress on the SDGs, adding those elements that form the basis of our universal, integrated, ambitious agenda.

Thank you.