



PHILIPPINES

STATEMENT

Delivered by

Ms. Erlinda M. Capones
Director
Social Development Staff
National Economic and Development Authority

At the

5th Session (Follow-up and review)
Intergovernmental Negotiations on the
Post-2015 Development Agenda
18-22 May 2015
UNHQ, New York

Post-2015 Intergovernmental Negotiations
Follow-up and Review
18-22 May 2015

Director Erlinda M. Capones
National Economic and Development Authority
PHILIPPINES

Distinguished co-facilitator,

The Philippines recognizes the crucial role of a well-designed follow-up and review framework for the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda to ensure accountability and transparency among all Member States. The Philippine Delegation aligns with the statement made by the Group of 77 + China. Building on their recommendations, we would also like to share the following in our national capacity.

On the national review process, the framework should be inclusive, transparent, coherent, and should underscore the value of a bottom-up approach. The Philippines, as a decentralized government structure, would like to emphasize that development is strongly linked with grassroots support. We, therefore, recommend that the national review of the framework highlight the importance of localization as a main contributory factor in the process.

At the national level, the national consultative review process should be inclusive to include the voices of the vulnerable groups and the youth. We concur with the recommendation that every Member State should establish a national review body set-up according to country context.

However, various issues can impede the regular formulation of national reports in accordance to the follow-up and review framework. First, access to resources in formulating national reports is uneven among Member States. Second, the availability of reliable, timely and disaggregated data as well as the lag times in data collection and processing also vary per country which could affect the content quality of the reports. Again we would like to reiterate and emphasize the need for capacity building to strengthen statistical agencies. We, therefore, support the Secretary-General's proposal to launch a comprehensive programme of action on data.

A national report that will review the achievements, emerging issues and challenges and lessons learned and that will contain recommendations and ways forward is a welcome option to monitor progress. Member States should be provided with adequate and coherent support from the UN and its relevant institutions to build the states' institutional and national capacities to accelerate and improve the implementation of the Post-2015 development agenda. To facilitate a more productive review, the process should emphasize not only what has been done to achieve

sustainable development, but also the impact of the efforts made. In other words, we should focus more on results rather than inputs and outputs.

Moreover, monitoring works best among countries at the regional level. With the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) becoming effective in 2015, the review process could be an opportune time for ASEAN countries to collaborate more through better technical cooperation in terms of making the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) achievable in the region. Regional peer review mechanisms should be strengthened to share experiences among countries with similar circumstances and learn from each other.

We see the importance of having a high-level political forum to ensure strong ownership of the Post-2015 Development Agenda that should result in immediate action and in mobilizing resources towards achieving the SDGs and, therefore, ensure that no one is left behind.

Thank you, Co-facilitator.