



June 24, 2015

Meeting between Post-2015 Co-Facilitators and Major Groups and other Stakeholders 24 June, 2015; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Statement by Dr. Abdulrahman Jawahery
President
International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA)**

Good morning Mr. Co-Chairs,

My name is Abdulrahman Jawahery and I come from Bahrain. I am speaking for the International Fertilizer Industry Association, on behalf of the Business and Industry Major Group.

I would like to commend the Co-Facilitators and Member States for producing a draft outcome document that is both inspirational and universal.

The Declaration aptly captures an array of essential aspects such as natural resource depletion and adverse impacts of environmental degradation, including drought and climate change. We also urge the Member Countries to acknowledge in subsequent drafts the issue of land degradation and nutrient depletion in soils which traps many regions in poverty cycles. This is particularly important in 2015 the International Year of Soils.

Business and particularly agribusiness also commends the inclusion of women and girls in the agenda and stresses that access to inputs such as seeds, fertilizer and credit is essential in reducing the gender gap and allowing women and children to rise out of poverty and to contribute to rural development and well-being.

We also commend the inclusion of reducing infant and maternal mortality and would like to draw attention that malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies should be a priority area. Agrifood industries are increasingly working in partnership to address malnutrition through both agronomic biofortification and supplementation of foods with micronutrients.

Regarding the Review and Follow Up mechanism, we express confidence that it will foster an enabling environment so that the unprecedented multi-stakeholder engagement exhibited in developing the agenda continues to be as great in the monitoring and reviewing. This will foster ownership across the board and further legitimize this universal agenda.



Business is able and keen to assist and provide disaggregated data that can inform the indicators and monitoring processes.

Business and Industry is keen to continue working with Member States and the UN specialized agencies and provide assistance and expertise in regions and topical areas where our capacities complement the needs of other stakeholders. I cannot help but draw a parallel between the acronym for public-private partnership which is PPPs and “people, planet and prosperity” mentioned in the zero draft. Together we can create the conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth.

Thank you.