

**High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
“Our HLPF in the Next 15 Years” Tuesday, 7 July 2015, 3:30-6:00pm**

Statement delivered by

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(Check against delivery)

- Mr. President, the successful implementation of the post-2015 agenda will depend on a robust, effective, and efficient follow-up and review framework, one that is based on guiding principles such as flexibility, strengthened governance, partnership, openness, transparency, and accountability. The framework should cover the entire post-2015 agenda, including its means of implementation.
- The HLPF will have a key role to play in this regard, acting as the apex of the follow-up and review architecture for the Post 2015 Agenda. While capturing data against indicators will be critical for analysis, we believe the HLPF should principally be a strategic forum for understanding trends, learning lessons and mobilizing action.
- The HLPF should also act as a forum where leaders from all regions and international experts across sectors convene to take stock of global successes and challenges, identify emerging trends, highlight innovations, forge new partnerships, and renew global action.
- The HLPF will need to draw on a clearly defined implementation, follow up and review architecture that makes best use of existing UN platforms, and includes the broader international system.
- This architecture should benefit from efforts to further develop effective data collection and analysis, and to encourage open data and open government. Supporting statistical capacity development, including civil registration and vital statistics, will help enable states to make sound policy, budget and programming decisions.
- The HLPF should be supported by data, synthesized in a suitable format. We see the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) as being an important global level input that strengthens the science-policy interface, and suggest policy directions. In this regard, the GSDR should be the result of a collaborative effort involving the ECOSOC system, DESA, scientists and experts from a wide range of sectors and

backgrounds. It should be prepared sufficiently in advance of the HLPF so that findings can be reviewed by capitals and stakeholders.

- Another key input will be the analysis of regional trends. The HLPF should provide space for each region to deliver a high-level synthesis of their progress, challenges and opportunities as they relate to the SDGs. We recognize that each region should choose the mechanisms and format for follow-up and review, best suited to their unique circumstances.
- To drive momentum and collective action, the HLPF should be designed in a way that encourages the participation of global experts from all sectors, not just member states. To succeed we must be bold and innovative in our approach. The HLPF should be a place where: commitments are made; cross-sector partnerships are formed; innovations presented; lessons are learned; and actions mobilized. We should consider the value of holding innovation fairs and matchmaking marketplaces alongside the HLPF.
- Recognizing the potential benefits that the HLPF offers, countries will have increasing incentives to feature themselves by making National Voluntary Presentations. To promote innovation, we believe that the format for these national presentations should be flexible, albeit within an allocated timeframe. In general, one could envision voluntary presentations touching on key SDG successes (including flagship initiatives), areas of ongoing challenges and desired partnerships. In order to get there, it will be important to better understand how countries will be translating the SDGs to achieve maximum results in their national contexts.
- The HLPF should provide a space where member states and stakeholders showcase their innovations, successes and challenges. It should foster partnerships based on principles of inclusion, mutual accountability, and transparency, where all development actors can

contribute their unique expertise and necessary resources to our common undertaking. We would suggest a format which encourages robust engagement with multi-stakeholder groups and international experts.

- Our vision is for the HLPF to become the place to advance the global sustainable development agenda.
- In summary, our framework for the HLPF should meet the following key criteria:
 - 1- It should be positive and not punitive.
 - 2- It should be flexible, build on existing bodies and systems, and avoid creating new bureaucracy or onerous reporting requirements;
 - 3- It should enable us to see trends, identify emerging issues, share lessons and innovative practices
 - 4- It should encourage an enabling environment for multi-stakeholder engagement, with systematic yet focused participation of non-state actors and international experts;
 - 5- It should encourage and mobilize partnerships for action
- To realize our vision for HLPF in the coming 15 years, we will need to take concrete steps towards operationalization. Specifically, we will need to build the HLPF agenda in a way that is conducive to interaction and exchange of experiences. For that to happen, the HLPF preparatory process will have to be inclusive and transparent, using ECOSOC structures and regional groupings in a structured manner for consultations. We also have to establish an architecture that defines roles and responsibilities and aligns with existing mechanisms. In this regard, we would welcome the elaboration of a roadmap which would help us build a program of work for a successful HLPF, including the quadrennial GA-level HLPF, every four year. We hope that our ideas and directions for our HLPF in the next 15 years will be captured in the Chair's Summary.

I thank you.