Republic of Korea's Comments on the Final Draft of the Post-2015 Outcome Document
22 July 2015

I. Preamble

- Dignity and justice should be regarded as crucial elements for the achievement of the sustainable development goals. In this regard, we suggest ‘dignity’ and ‘justice’ should be emphasized in bold type:

"People

We want to ensure that all human being can fulfill their potential. We want to end poverty in all its forms; and hunger and malnutrition; promote human dignity; …"

"Peace

All people yearn to live in peaceful and harmonious societies, free from fear and violence. We want to foster peaceful, safe and inclusive societies; to strengthen governance and institutions at all levels; to ensure equal access to justice; …"

II. Declaration

✧ Our shared principles

The paragraph 10 of the Zero Draft referring to the major UN conferences and summits that provide the foundation for our discussion should remain in this section. In this regard, we prefer the title “Our commitment and shared principles” as in the Zero Draft.

✧ The new Agenda

- Paragraph 22

Paragraph 22 should recognize the importance of participation of the vulnerable in establishing enabling environments and further emphasize the commitment of the international community to this end.

“Vulnerable sections of the population who must be empowered, and whose needs are reflected in the goals and targets, include children, youth, persons with disabilities and older persons; the needs of others who are vulnerable, such as migrants and indigenous peoples, are also reflected. People living in areas affected by conflict, terrorism and complex humanitarian emergencies are also experiencing
severe challenges. Such marginalized and vulnerable populations must fully participate in creating enabling environments for the implementation of the Agenda.”

- **Paragraph 23**

In paragraph 23 on education, we strongly recommend using the language from SDG 4 so as to read:

“We commit to providing inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary. All people irrespective of gender, age, race or ethnicity, including persons with disabilities, indigenous people, children and youth in vulnerable situations, should have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities and to participate fully in society.”

- **Paragraph 30**

In paragraph 30 relating to SDG 16 on peace, we would like to see clear references to “good governance” as well as transparency and accountability, which good governance should be built on.

“Sustainable development cannot be realized without peace; and peace will be at risk without sustainable development. The new Agenda recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights (including the right to development), on effective rule of law and on good governance including transparent, effective and accountable institutions. Factors which give rise to violence, insecurity and injustice, such as corruption, poor governance and illicit financial and arms flows, are addressed in the Agenda. We must redouble our efforts to resolve or prevent conflict and to support countries emerging from conflict situations. We commit to remove the obstacles to the full realization of the right of self-determination of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which continue to adversely affect their economic and social development as well as their environment.”

**Implementation**

This section still seems to be in need of overall improvement. In our view, references should be made in a balanced manner to several points.

- We propose inserting a paragraph on the primary responsibility of each state for their own development and the importance of domestic enabling environment following paragraph 33 (based on paragraph 2 of the Zero Draft, MOI section):

  “We recognise that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies, development strategies and domestic enabling environments cannot be
overemphasised. At the same time, national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment.”

- In paragraph 34, we propose inserting a sentence on the roles of a variety of financial resources including domestic mobilization, private finance as well as ODA (based on paragraph 5 of the Zero Draft, MOI section):

“Domestic public resources mobilization will continue to be crucial. We acknowledge the power and reach of financial inclusion. We note also the critical importance of private finance and we call on businesses to apply their creativity and innovation and to engage as partners in the development process. Official Development Assistance remains important in supporting the sustainable development needs of countries and regions, in particular African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states. We shall accelerate full implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the Vienna Programme of Action for Land-Locked Developing Countries, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).”

- In paragraph 40 on a renewed and strengthened global partnership, shared responsibility and development effectiveness principles should be emphasized as key elements of the partnership:

“The scale and ambition of the new Agenda calls for a revitalized Global Partnership, based on the principles of shared responsibility and development effectiveness, to implement it. This partnership will work in a spirit of global solidarity, in particular solidarity with the poorest and with people in vulnerable situations. It will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of implementation of the goals and targets, bringing together Governments, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources. We commit to pursue policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and with all actors.”

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