Statement

By

Amb. Benedict Lukwiya

Leader of Uganda Delegation to the 7th session of the Post-2015 Development Agenda Intergovernmental Negotiations

New York, 23rd July, 2015

Please Check Against Delivery
Distinguished Co-Facilitators,

Let me begin by extending our heartfelt condolences to the Government and people of the Republic of Djibouti upon the untimely death of their Permanent Representative to the UN and Dean of the Diplomatic Corp in New York.

Uganda aligns itself with the statement made by the Chair of G77 + China and now we would like to address the following additional points from our national perspectives.

In the preceding chapters of the zero draft, we have made a resolve to eradicate poverty in our generation; address climate change and ensure peaceful and equitable societies, among others, as elaborated in the goals and targets. In doing all that, we must leave no one behind. However, to achieve these noble objectives, we must dedicate commensurate MOI.

To this end, we must acknowledge that States are primarily responsible for their own development in partnership with other actors at the national, regional and global levels. Individual governments know what works and what does not work for their development and should take the lead in this endeavor. This is the reason why policy space has to be respected for the individual states to design policies for mobilization of resources and for implementation of the agenda.

The world we live in is characterized by inequality and diversity. Some countries will have to do more than others to achieve the same goals; some will have a greater capacity and/or responsibility to catalyze change and to support the efforts of others. This requires a structure that effectively combines universal commitments for all countries with national differentiation, according to different context, needs, responsibilities and capabilities - in other words the recognition of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Mr. Co-facilitators,
It will be another wasted opportunity if the shortcomings that we have painfully identified in the MDGs particularly inadequate means of implementation are not addressed in a substantive way in the new agenda.