Co-facilitators,

I deliver this statement on behalf of the delegations of Chile, Costa Rica, Peru and my own, Colombia. We have the following concrete comments on the current draft:

1. Title

We welcome the proposed title for “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. For us it is clear that sustainable development should be part of the title, as to communicate from there that this is about an integrated approach to sustained economic growth, social inclusion and environmental preservation.

2. Multidimensionality of poverty

We welcome the precisions made in the current draft in order to refer to poverty in all its forms and dimensions. As a matter of consistency we point out that, in paragraph 25, poverty should also be referred in all its forms and dimensions.

3. International migration

It is important to understand that international migration is a contributor to sustainable development, as acknowledged in paragraph 111 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other international agreed instruments. We therefore propose to amend paragraph 35 as to add this reference in the second line:

35. We recognize that international migration is a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for AND A CONTRIBUTOR TO the development of countries of origin...

We also request the removal of the current brackets and express our support to keep the references to migration status in paragraphs 20, 24 and 26.
Middle Income Countries

For an agenda called to leave no one behind, it is of the utmost importance to address the specific challenges faced by MICs. We recall that more than 70% of the people suffering from poverty inhabits in MICs. Many of these countries would not be able to overcome the so-called “middle income trap”. Therefore, many MICs still need ODA to achieve sustainable development and we need to advance in the establishment of a Plan of Action for this group of countries. In that regard we propose to add the following at the end of paragraph 41:

41. …and will advance in the establishment of a Plan of Action towards cooperation with Middle-Income Countries. Aternativo: A Plan of Action towards cooperation with Middle-Income Countries is required.

Family

We cannot accept paragraph 44 as it stands in the current draft. Family should be referred in all its forms, as to reflect the world’s reality in an inclusive manner that is respective of all human rights.

“We the peoples”

We believe that the reference made in paragraph 54 to Abraham Lincoln’s celebrated Gettysburg speech, in order to be consistent with the UN Charter, should be pluralized. Our agenda should therefore be one “of the PEOPLES, by the PEOPLES and for the PEOPLES”. This also hints to the fact that implementation is to be led by States, in representation of such peoples. Paragraph 54 should be amended in accordance.

Leave no one behind

We believe that in order to implement the principle of living no one behind it is of the utmost importance to address with particular attention the needs of those economic and social groups lagging furthest behind. We would therefore support the following amendments proposed in
paragraphs 4, 50 and 78:

4. As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we will strive wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and for all social and economic groups of people. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.

50. Indicators are being developed to assist this work. Quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data will be needed to help with the measurement of progress for all social and economic groups and to ensure that no one is left behind. Such data is key to decision-making...

78. The HLPF will have the central role in overseeing follow-up and review at the global level...It should ensure that the Agenda remains relevant and ambitious and should focus on the assessment of progress, achievements and challenges faced by developed and developing countries as well as new and emerging issues. It should also focus on progress for the social and economic groups that are the furthest behind. Effective linkages...

49 We support the comments by Mexico regarding the need to reflect the follow up and review architecture in full, or to delete the last sentence in this paragraph.

Cochairs, our four delegations are ready to engage constructively in all pending issues.

Thank you