Armenia
July 31, 2015

Informal meeting of the plenary on the process of intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, pursuant to resolution 69/244 and decisions 69/550 and 69/555, focusing on the declaration

Mr. co-facilitator,

Thank you for the opportunity to reflect on the new draft, with regards to which there are a few points we would like to highlight:

We welcome the new language on migration, as reflected in paragraph 35, in particular, the way it highlights the rights of the returning migrants. We would furthermore propose giving consideration to the aspect of reintegration of the returning migrants. Also, as we proposed previously, we continue to believe that the text would benefit from highlighting the importance of strengthened partnerships between private sector and governments to work with migrant and diaspora communities.

We have noted the revisions made to paragraph 39 on Global Partnership, however, the new linkage to national parliaments in the paragraph does not seem self-evident and, in our view, needs to transition to the next paragraph. Also, as we suggested before, we believe that the importance of effective mobilization of financial and non-financial resources, including through a more efficient use of existing resources, should be adequately highlighted.

As a landlocked country facing structural constraints, it is only natural that we are fully committed to the idea of eliminating barriers to international trade and development, including those stemming from unduly discriminating policies and regimes. Yet, we believe that the text would benefit from a more conciliatory approach whereby the idea expressed in paragraph 30 could find its adequate reformulation in paragraph 64. To this end, we could help work out a more positive language proposal.

Lastly, Mr. co-facilitator, we would like to support the longer version of the Preamble, because, in our view, it represents a more adequate reflection of the inputs that member states have been providing all throughout the process - which, we believe, is the whole point of this exercise.

Proposal on para 64

64. International trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction,
and contributes to the promotion of sustainable development. We will continue to promote a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization (WTO), as well as meaningful trade liberalization. We call on all WTO members to redouble their efforts to promptly conclude the negotiations on the Doha Development Agenda. We attach great importance to providing trade-related capacity-building for developing countries, in particular African countries, least-developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing states and middle-income countries, including for the promotion of regional economic integration and interconnectivity. We will work towards eliminating barriers to international trade and development, including those arising from unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations.