

**PERMANENT MISSION OF TUNISIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
31 BEEKMAN PLACE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022**



**البعثة الدائمة للجمهورية التونسية
لدى منظمة الأمم المتحدة
بنيويورك**

**Statement of
the Permanent Mission of Tunisia
on the intergovernmental negotiations on the revised
draft of
the post-2015 development agenda**

(New York, 31 July 2015)

Delivered by:

M. Ramzi Louati, Counsellor

Distinguished Co-facilitators

Let me, at the outset, commend you for your tireless efforts to bring us to a successful outcome of our negotiations. We join the other delegations to express our appreciation for your leadership and wisdom in managing this process.

I would also like to align my delegation with the statement delivered by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, Tanzania on behalf of the African Group and United Arab Emirates on behalf of the Arab Group.

We wish to make the following remarks in our national capacity.

Co-facilitators

Tunisia welcomes the revised draft of the outcome document. We appreciate the constructive text submitted which takes into account many concerns of developing countries, mainly from our African continent, as it aims to free the poorest people from the tyranny of poverty.

We particularly welcome and support:

- The language on para 35 on the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development, on the full respect for human rights treatment of migrants regardless of migration status, as well as on strengthening the resilience of communities hosting refugees.
- The language on inter-cultural understanding, tolerance and ethic of global citizenship on para 36.
- The reference to “reproductive health” on para 17 and to “universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning”, on para 27.

Let me also add the following comments:

On the preamble: Tunisia prefers the short version submitted by the co-facilitators.

On the introduction: we call to re-include the language on “middle income countries” from para 45 in the previous revised text.

While we appreciate the strengthening of the language on **water** in the new text, we support the suggestions made by the distinguished representative of Switzerland to add a reference on sustainable water management and to revise para 9 and para 32 as follows:

In para 9: We envisage a world in which every country enjoys sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth in order to generate resources for the eradication of poverty and the achievement of sustainable development. A world in which consumption and production patterns, **management** and use of all natural resources – from air to land, from rivers, **lakes and aquifers (or freshwater bodies)** to oceans and seas – are sustainable. One in which development and the application of technology are climate-sensitive, respect biodiversity and are resilient. One in which humanity lives in harmony with nature and in which wildlife and other living species are protected.

In para 32. We recognise that social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of our planet's natural resources. We are therefore determined to conserve and sustainably use oceans and seas, **protect and manage** freshwater resources, as well as mountains and drylands and to protect biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife. We are also determined to promote sustainable tourism, tackle water scarcity and water pollution, to strengthen cooperation on desertification, [dust storms], land degradation and drought and to promote resilience and disaster risk reduction,. We will achieve this by promoting sustainable development and decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation.

Furthermore, we support to keep the entire reference to the **Human Right to Water and Sanitation**.

On the Sustainable Development Goals: we support the revised targets as proposed by the co-facilitators.

On the means of implementation: we support the inclusion of para 123 from the outcome document of Addis-Ababa regarding the technology facilitation mechanism.

Finally, allow me to reiterate the commitment of Tunisia to continue its constructive contribution to these negotiations in order to elaborate a truly ambitious, transformative and efficient development agenda.