Co-Chairs’ Summary bullet points from OWG-4

Employment and decent work for all, social protection, youth, education and culture

- Reminded of the universality of the post-2015 agenda and the SDGs. Some lessons from the MDGs – equitable access to services and going beyond aggregate measures. Access is not enough - quality must also be addressed.

- Need to reflect the multiple interlinkages between issues and address key drivers and enablers of change. But not all our priorities are “goalable”.

- Poverty eradication remains our overriding goal that is manifestly linked to decent and productive work, social protection, and access to quality basic education and health care.

- Repeated emphasis on the need for disaggregated data to address inequalities and track progress in reaching vulnerable populations.

- Decent and productive work is the most direct route out of poverty, based on robust, inclusive, job-creating growth. Enterprises and entrepreneurs are principal job creators. Unemployment, especially among youth, is a serious problem. A goal or targets related to jobs would need to address the situation of the working poor as well as the unemployed.

- Many highlighted the cross-cutting nature of social protection; minimum services can be extended even in low-income settings.

- The human rights dimension, equity of access, quality, and relevance were emphasized with respect to education. At the elementary level it should be free.

- Complete the unfinished work of the MDGs to ensure universal primary school enrollment - but also learning outcomes, relevance to job needs, lifelong learning, adult literacy, and non-formal education.

- Culture was highlighted as a source of resilience, strengthen and adaptability of societies. Youth concerns need to be reflected across goals, especially in relation to education, health and employment.

Health, Population dynamics

- Health is a right and a goal in its own right, as well as a means of measuring success across the whole sustainable development agenda. It encompasses broad well-being, not merely the absence of disease.

- Reference was made to universal health coverage; equitable access to quality basic health services; health promotion, prevention, treatment, and financial risk protection. Health MDGs could be integrated as targets under an overarching universal health goal.

- Communicable diseases still burden many countries, but non-communicable diseases increasingly affect all countries, highlighting the need to promote healthy diets and lifestyles. There is a need to address access and health needs of persons with disabilities.

- The discussions highlighted the importance of equal access of women and girls to health-care services, including addressing women’s sexual and reproductive health, and ensuring universal access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable modern methods of family planning.

- Ageing populations are a major health care challenge for many countries. There is an overlap between health risks facing the young and the old.

- Demographic realities facing different regions of the world are divergent – there can be no uniform prescription for responding to population dynamics. But demography is not destiny. Developing countries with growing youth populations can reap a demographic dividend, but will need complementary policies to foster economic dynamism and job creation.

- Migration can bring development benefits, as well as challenges, including the loss of skilled labour and social integration of migrants.