



PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



*Permanent Mission of Kenya
to the United Nations*

New York, 17 January 2014

Excellency,

In our capacity as Co-Chairs of the General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, we take this opportunity to thank you for the very constructive debates we held recently, which culminated in successful conclusion of the seventh session of the Group.

As demonstrated during the last session, there were strong indications from the membership that the Group needs to build on the areas we have already covered during the entire stock-taking phase over the last year. We are now left with one more session scheduled from 3 to 7 February that will finalize this phase of the process.

Subsequent to the completion of the final stock-taking session, we will, as we previously informed you, produce a concise stock-taking report based on the themes covered during the entire stock-taking phase. Thereafter, the Open Working Group will commence with the consensus building on the goals and targets in line with its mandate as provided in GA decision 67/555, beginning on 3 March 2014.

Since we already have various inputs from the inclusive consultative process, we acknowledge the opinion sounded out on January 10th to proceed on the basis of the document to be officially presented by us Co-Chairs. We will circulate the document in advance in order to facilitate consultations with your respective capitals.

In line with the above and taking into account the inputs given during our last session, two ideas emerged from the discussions:

- (i) The Co-Chairs will present an inclusive and representative list/compendium of priority areas of sustainable development and the universal commitments needed to make significant and measurable progress in those areas, based on the expressed opinions and interests during the whole stock-taking phase and guided by the criteria and principles of the Rio+20 Outcome Document.
- (ii) Some Member States spoke to the desirability of a loose text based on the stock-taking phase to stimulate further debate on the way forward.

In light of the above, the Co-Chairs' preference will be the first option as it provides a practical position from which to proceed. We believe that this option will provide a credible common point of departure for the next phase of our consensus building, based on common ownership, and ensure inclusiveness and transparency of the process.

The Co-Chairs sought to organize informal intersessional consultations on the way forward, as proposed during the seventh session of the Open Working Group. However, this proved infeasible due to logistical, organizational and timing issues. Therefore, the Co-Chairs will hold open, informal consultations on Tuesday, 4 February at 6-8 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, in order to reach consensus on the way forward.

If your Delegation has not yet done so, we urge you to send your written statements from all prior sessions of the stock-taking phase to the Division for Sustainable Development (dsd@un.org) at your earliest convenience, so that they can be taken into consideration and published on the website of the Open Working Group.

We look forward to continuing this challenging endeavour with you in the coming months.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Mr. Macharia Kamau
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to
the United Nation



Mr. Csaba Kőrösi
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Hungary to
the United Nations

Permanent Representatives of Member States
listed in Annex to General Assembly decision 67/555
New York

cc: All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York