Intervention by the Delegation of the State of Palestine during the sixth session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

Session on Human Rights, the Right to Development and Global Governance

(New York, 13 December 2013)

I thank the Co-Chairs and the Secretariat for their hard work. The State of Palestine associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished Ambassador of Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Arab Group.

Allow me here Mr. Co-Chair to just emphasize few points that are important for my delegation:

- Palestinian experience is one example that proves no development can be achieved without the respect of human rights, including the right to development and its basic requirements, including respect of the right of peoples to self-determination and full sovereignty over their natural resources.

- The process of elaboration of the post 2015 agenda and SDGs represents a historical opportunity to use the full potential of human rights, including the right to development to help addressing present and emerging challenges and obstacles to development.

- The importance of accountability mechanisms based on human rights mechanism. In this regard we fully agree with the position of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Navi Pillay that said and we quote
“The right to development can be realized only when there is a solid national and international accountability framework for development that respects social justice and human rights”.

- Finally I thank you Mr. Co-Chair for raising the important issue of “freeing from fear between countries”. We hope that this point will be taken into consideration.

I thank you Mr. Co-Chair.