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**MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF FINLAND**  
**Post-2015 coordinator, Ambassador Kirsti Aarnio**

**7.2.2014**

**Conflict prevention, Post-conflict Peacebuilding and Promotion of Durable Peace**

Co-Chair, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

We would like to align ourselves with the statement made by the EU. In addition I would like to underline the following key messages:

In the increasingly interdependent world **peace and stability are crucial for sustainable development and poverty eradication**. Conflict, insecurity, violence, financial and economic collapse, climate change, resource scarcity and frequent high magnitude disasters hinder all aspects of development. These **multidimensional risks** have to be addressed in a comprehensive and integrated way in order to enhance resilience and ensure sustainable development.

Persistent **inequality** at human, national, regional and global levels leads to **vicious circle of poverty**. It is also **a cause of violence and instability in societies**. If we succeed to really tackle **all forms of inequalities** in the post-2015 development agenda, we can truly make a difference. This, in our view, is our obligation.

In the context of sustainable development, and in the context of our discussions earlier this week, stability has also **broader meaning**. Planetary stability needs to be safeguarded in order to fight poverty and secure human wellbeing. The stable functioning of life supporting systems - including biodiversity, oceans and forests – is a prerequisite for thriving and stable societies. Therefore it is important to **respect the planetary boundaries** and strive for solutions for a safe and fair living environment for the humanity to develop and prosper.

Finland was very pleased to be able to support **the UNDG thematic consultation on ‘Conflict, Violence and Disaster’** (organized in Indonesia, Liberia, Panama and Finland). Our commitment to work in partnership for peace and stability continues, for our Minister of International Development (Mr. Pekka Haavisto) had recently the honor to assume **Chairmanship of the International Dialogue of Peacebuilding and Statebuilding** together with the Minister of Finance (Ms Emilia Pires) of Timor-Leste. Through the IPDS it is possible to look for new partners in working on inclusion of peace, freedom from violence and stability into the Post-2015 agenda.

I thank you.