

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ETHIOPIA, H.E. AMBASSADOR TEKEDA ALEMU , AT THE 9<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs, MARCH 3-5, 2014**

Mr. Co-Chair,

Ethiopia would like to appreciate the co-chairs effort in producing both the Summary report of the Open Working Group and the non-paper on 19 Focus Areas. Both are highly useful, comprehensive and balanced, and will be helpful in facilitating our future work.

We are also very encouraged by the fact that the text containing the Focus areas addresses most of the African Common Position on the post 2015 development Agenda .Let me put in parenthesis here that Africa now has a common position on the post 2015 development Agenda which highlights six pillars, namely: Structural economic transformation and inclusive growth; Science technology and innovation; Human Centered development ; Environmental sustainability, Natural resource management and risk management of natural disasters ; peace and security; and Finance and Partnerships .

It is also our considered view that a new global development framework must ensure adequate balance between the three dimensions of sustainable development .Cross-sectorial coordination also must be prioritized as a way of achieving successful outcomes.

In General, as already mentioned the Focus areas text addresses most of the African priorities .Obviously, we attach great importance to structural transformation without which progress in eradicating poverty will be inconceivable. Here, the linkage between Agricultural productivity, which needs

to be highlighted even more than what we see in the text, and industrialization become vital. I wish to mention here that we have now here at UN a group of friends of Sustainable and inclusive industrialization. The group is convinced that not only is industrialization indispensable for eradicating poverty in a substantive manner, but industrialization also has universal applicability.

Let me now turn to a few more thoughts.

Ethiopia is of the view that the deep inter-linkage between climate change, green economy and sustainable development needs to be highlighted more. Moreover, disaster risk reduction, in light of its importance, is also one area that, in our view, the document could have covered in a more substantive manner, and it is not without reason that the Africa Common Position considers this matter as one of the six pillars.

Finally, although Means of Implementation is reflected in the document, more emphasis should be placed to highlight how critical finance is for the effective implementation of the post-2015 global development framework. In this regards, Ethiopia wishes to underline that the need for specific targets and indicators on finance and non-finance means of implementation mainstreamed into all the future sustainable development goals.

I Thank You!