



**10th Session of the UN Open Working Group on
Sustainable Development Goals
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Statement by ITALY, SPAIN and TURKEY

FOCUS AREA 19

- We welcome the broadened scope and additional elements on this cluster. We particularly appreciate the specific mention to human rights and equality as key determinants of peaceful, non violent and inclusive societies. Nevertheless, while the text makes a reference on the need to be “based on the respect of all human rights”, this is a very limited approach. Human development is the full exercise and realization of human rights, and as such, must be reflected in every goal in a cross-cutting manner. Moreover, while we support the interlinkages for this focus area contained in annex I, we believe that they should also include a reference to focus area 11 “employment and decent work for all” as a key element to ensure an equitable society.
- A specific mention to the issue of conflict, post-conflict and peace fragility should be included under this focus area recognizing peace as a fundamental condition to achieve development. A reference to the protection of the most vulnerable groups, and in particular women, during conflicts should also be included.
- This focus area should also recognize social cohesion as a key foundation for building peace and stress the importance of setting public policies to this end.
- We appreciate the reference to migration policies under area h). The interdependence of migration and development should also be stressed under this area.
- Governance, Rule of law, and capable and democratic institutions are key components to guarantee the respect of human rights, peace and security, or create equal opportunities for all, and constitute key enablers for sustainable development. We appreciate the areas included in the chairs’ document under this heading. In this context we believe that there should be a stronger emphasis on accountability of institutions at all levels and on their capacity to deliver services. A specific mention to the need for disclosure and accountability of the private sector should also be added.
- Point c) provision of public services should also consider the notion of access in order to include persons with disabilities. Point g) on inclusive participatory decision making should make a specific reference to women’s empowerment.

- We fully support area h) on strengthening of local governments. However, this area should also reflect the importance of increasing participation at the local level.
- A specific mention to the importance of policy coherence and of sound global governance for the management of Global public goods should also be included.