Statement by Troika of China, Indonesia and Kazakhstan on Cluster 8 of focus areas on 10th Session of SDGs OWG

Thank you, Mr. Co-chair. I have the honor to speak on behalf of troika of China, Indonesia and Kazakhstan.

Peaceful and non-violent societies, rule of law and capable institutions

• The SDGs should be guided by Rio principles and focused on the 3 dimensions of sustainable development. All the goals and targets we develop need to be closed linked to the theme of poverty eradication and development.

• We acknowledge the importance of peaceful and non-violent societies, rule of law and capable institutions and their linkage with development, which create an enabling environment for sustainable development. However, there are other important institutions and forums to discuss these issues within the peace and human right pillars of UN, SDG should focus on the development pillar of UN Mission.

• Therefore, our troika hold the view that this cluster of other issues should not be a stand-alone goal or targets. We propose not to include this focus area 19 in the next draft. On the other hand, we are open to the discussion of merging these issues into naratives in the preemblem part of the final report.

• As for the specific bullet points in this focus area, we believe some bullet points could be reflected and combined into other relevant goal areas or as means of implementation, such as combating organized crime, reduction of crime and violence, promoting culture of non-violence, curbing illicit financial flows, etc.

• However there are some bullet points we propose to delete, such as strengthening the rule of law at all levels. Rule of law at the national level is in essence a matter of internal affairs. There is no “one-size-fits-all” model for rule of law and it is hardly goalable and
properly measured. In addition, the rule of law at the national and international level should be treated on equal footing.

- We also propose to delete Bullet point B. G. H. I. J. Under the sub-focus-area of Governance, rule of law and capable institutions, since they are not relevant to the SDG agenda.

Thank you, Mr. Co-chair.
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China supports and appreciates the co-chair’s excellent working leading us so far. We are ready to engage in further consultations based on our discussion of the previous sessions. And we have the following specific suggestions as for the way forward:

1. We expect the co-chairs could reflect our discussion in the next draft in a balanced manner and take our interventions into consideration while revising the next draft, which should be made available to member states as soon as possible for further consultation with respective capitals.

2. As our troika mentioned during our methodology statement at the beginning of the session, we propose the co-chairs to add narratives into next draft, so that we can discuss the draft report properly in the next session. We would like to reiterate our proposal that the next revised draft should include a narrative as preamble part to reaffirm all the Rio principles, in particular the principle of Common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) as a guiding principle of SDGs. The narrative should also include those elements in the focus areas that are not goalable in SDGs as we proposed in the interventions of relevant clusters.

We are confident that you will continue your excellent manner in leading us and take these suggestions to next draft and ensure that the OWG SDGs produces a balanced report by consensus.

Thank you, Mr. Co-chair.