

**10th Session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development
Goals
31st March to April 4th
Focus area 18. Means of implementation/Global partnership for
sustainable development**

Statement by Brazil and Nicaragua

Mr. Co-chair,

Nicaragua and Brazil support the statement of Bolivia on behalf of G77 and China.

We believe means of implementation should be conceived as a cross-cutting and a stand-alone SDG, and we brought forward concrete proposals in the last four days for mainstreaming means of implementation in virtually all focus areas.

Our proposal consists in establishing, under each focus area, a section entitled "means of implementation", in which we would place targets on financing, technology facilitation, capacity-building, institutional building, need for specific disaggregated data, among others, as applicable.

Such approach would contribute to transparency, accountability and effectiveness of international cooperation for sustainable development in the post-2015 period. It would also allow for an universal agenda, taking into account the differentiation between developed and developing countries, as well as particular needs of countries in special situations .

Building on the experience with the MDGs, mainstreaming means of implementation would also support elaborating indicators disaggregated by different factors (sex, race/ethnic, age, disability, location), in accordance with the characteristics of individual goals and targets.

We cannot ignore the lessons learned from the MDGs on this matter.

Mr. Co-chair,

In relation to the focus area dedicated to means of implementation, Nicaragua and Brazil believe it should be expanded to include additional institutional and systemic issues.

Items related to institutional building for sustainable development at the national and international levels should be considered within the focus area on means of implementation.

For this reason, we suggest bringing all items on rule of law, governance and capable institutions to focus area 18, and deleting them from focus area 19.

Issues such as access to justice, participatory decision-making or provision of public services are clearly related to means of implementation. They do not belong in a security cluster, which is an extraneous element in the SDGs scope.

Mr. Co-chair,

Means of implementation should also include systemic targets, which contribute to an enabling international environment.

Item "a" suggests a systemic target on trade, but it should be complemented. In this regard, we would like to suggest an additional item which would read as follows: "concluding reforms for increasing effective participation of developing countries in international financial institutions, including the implementation of the quota and governance reforms of the International Monetary Fund."

Nicaragua and Brazil would also suggest an item on strengthening the institutional and financial support for South-South cooperation within the UN development system, in particular the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation. The system needs to have rules and procedures that take into account the specific characteristics of South-South Cooperation.

Still regarding South-South cooperation, as mentioned in item 6, it is necessary to make an explicit reference to the complementary role of South-South and Triangular cooperation in relation to North-North modalities.

Considering that many developing countries would have difficulty to compile statistics with the degree of complexity established in SDGs, it should be emphasized, in item 16, the need for assistance to these countries in monitoring the implementation of goals and targets.

We would also like to request explicit reference to national, regional and international levels, instead of using the expression 6 at all levels, in items on rule of law incorporated from focus area 19.

Mr. Co-chair,

Nicaragua and Brazil are of the view that a responsible approach is necessary towards the participation of the private sector in development cooperation.

Existing partnerships have expanded outside of the purview of intergovernmental oversight, without regular and effective participation by Member States, be it under the General Assembly or ECOSOC, in the decision-making process involving these initiatives. The General Assembly is currently considering a proposal for a mechanism on partnerships. In our view, this mechanism, or facility, needs to ensure accountability, transparency and governance by Member States over multistakeholder arrangements involving the United Nations.

Member States have received contradictory assessments on results of existing partnerships. Furthermore, some civil society organizations are expressing concerns for being crowded out by partnerships between United Nations and private corporations.

Targets should focus on strengthening intergovernmental institutional framework for partnerships instead of expanding such modalities without the proper framework.

Therefore, Nicaragua and Brazil suggests the following additional items:

Firstly, "ensuring regular intergovernmental monitoring and oversight on all UN multistakeholder initiatives and partnerships;"

Secondly, "ensuring transparency, accountability and reporting on all UN multistakeholder initiatives and partnerships;"

We would also like to request the deletion of item "d" of your proposal.

In item "e", we suggest the deletion of "such initiatives and partnerships". In the way it is currently drafted, the text suggests outsourcing the responsibility for the elaboration of resource mobilization strategies. In our view, the item could read "to develop strategies to mobilize resource from all sources".

Mr. Co-chair,

Nicaragua and Brazil also have several other specific suggestions for language improvement and streamlining, especially to avoid duplication after incorporating items on rule of law, governance and capable institutions to focus area 18.

In order to provide more clarity regarding our proposals, we would like to submit to the co-chairs a clean version of a revised focus area 18. If you agree on proceeding in this manner, the document would be uploaded as an annex to this statement.

I thank you, Mr. Co-chair.

ANNEX

Focus area 18. Means of implementation/Global partnership for sustainable development

The means of implementation are an integral component in achieving sustainable development, including trade, financing for sustainable development, capacity building, and development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies. In this regard global partnership for development has been emphasized as key to unlocking the full potential of sustainable development initiatives. While developing countries still require external support for their domestic sustainable development programmes, their own domestic actions are equally crucial. Special consideration should be given to the needs of countries in special situations, African countries, LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS as well as specific challenges facing the middle-income countries. International development cooperation through a strengthened global partnership for sustainable development is critical.

Some areas that could be considered include:

- a. further progress on development-supportive trade reforms within an open, rules-based multilateral trading system;
- b. concluding reforms for increasing effective participation of developing countries in international financial institutions, including the implementation of the quota and governance reforms of the International Monetary Fund.**
- c. strengthening commitment and involvement of multilateral financial development institutions in the global partnership for sustainable development;
- d. recommitment by developed countries to meet ODA targets on an agreed timetable;
- e. mobilizing additional financial resources from multiple sources such as remittances, foreign direct investment, institutional and other long-term investors and innovative financing;
- f. enhancing scientific and technological cooperation involving developing countries and technology transfer to developing countries;
- g. strengthening capacity building efforts for developing countries and knowledge sharing and technical cooperation among all countries through North-South and complemented by South-South, and triangular cooperation;
- h. strengthening institutional support for South-South Cooperation within the United Nations Development System, particular the UNSSC.**
- i. strengthening capacities for tax-collection, reducing tax evasion;
- j. strengthening systems of domestic savings;
- k. reducing the transaction costs of remittances;

Governance, rule of law, capable institutions at national and international levels are both outcome and enabler, advancing all three pillars of sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda.

- a. enhancing transparency and accountability in development cooperation;
- b. reducing illicit financial flows;
- c. improving efficiency of public spending;

- d. effective, accountable and transparent institutions **at national, regional and international levels;**
- e. strengthening the rule of law at **national, regional and international levels;**
- f. provision of public services for all;
- g. improvement of transparency in public finances management;
- h. fighting corruption in all its forms;
- i. improved public access to publicly owned information;
- j. inclusive, participatory decision-making;
- k. strengthening local governments;
- l. strengthening of civil society;
- m. freedom of media, association and speech;
- n. provision of legal identity;
- o. provision of property, use and access rights, to all persons;
- p. providing access to independent and responsive justice systems;
- q. strengthening capacities **of developing countries** for disaggregated and expanded data collection for measuring progress;
- r. regular monitoring and reporting of progress with means of implementation and aid efficiency, in conjunction with SDG progress reporting;

To provide impetus to Global Partnership for Sustainable Development and broader stakeholder engagement in sustainable development, some areas that could be considered include:

- a. strengthening regular intergovernmental monitoring and oversight on achievements of initiatives and partnerships;
- b. ensuring transparency, accountability and reporting on all partnerships;
- c. greater involvement of public and private sector business and industry, including financial institutions;
- d. enhanced involvement of philanthropic organizations;
- e. develop resource mobilization strategies;
- f. close coordination and cooperation of multi-stakeholder initiatives and partnerships with government and inter-governmental efforts in support of sustainable development.