

Proposal for statement by France, Germany and Switzerland

OWG11

Focus area 16. Peaceful and inclusive societies, rule of law and capable institutions

We would like to stress that we strongly encourage following a **consistent approach** to Human rights, good governance and rule of law throughout all goals and targets.

We welcome the inclusion of peaceful and inclusive societies, rule of law and capable institutions in the Co-Chairs' working document for this OWG. As previously stated, although many interlinks exist, our constituency remains convinced that the issues under this focus area should be reflected in **two separate goals**, which we see as being universal and applying to all countries for truly people-centered sustainable development.

When looking at the co-chairs document, we note that **very different concepts are combined in each target**. Targets will be measured by different indicators that would need to be aggregated and combined; the results need to be understandable and easy to communicate to a wide public. For the next iteration of the document, we would recommend more precise targets, which would not combine different concepts, but reflect similar issues. In addition, we propose to differentiate in separate targets issues that address predominantly national efforts from issues that address the reduction of external stresses since they require very different implementation measures.

A goal on “Peace and non-violent societies” should include targets that can be structured in the following three aspects:

- 1) **Personal safety**. Targets should include freedom from real and perceived violence, including **gender based violence**, and insecurity (which could be measured by the number of deaths due to armed conflict), violence and crime; public trust in security institutions, access to safe public spaces...
- 2) **Ensure access to fair justice for all and Strengthen effective, formal and informal mechanisms to manage disputes peacefully**: In addition to a target ensuring access to independent justice institutions for all that respect due process rights, , an additional target should include the availability of formal and informal resolution and reconciliation mechanisms, respecting international human rights standards.,e.g. through effective transitional justice mechanisms to foster a positive conflict transformation, including psychosocial support to victims.
- 3) Finally targets should aim at tackling **external stresses** such as: Combatting and preventing all forms of **organized crime** and violence related to it, including the illicit flow of goods (such as arms, drugs or natural resources) and human trafficking. A target should also aim at reducing the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons and their misuse.

Finally, it should promote the “increase of capacities for and access to disaster risk management”. We would also support a target that promotes “policies for **safe and regular**

migration and that facilitate migrants' contribution to sustainable development". However, we consider more appropriate to include this target under other areas, such as economic growth.

A goal on "Accountable, transparent, inclusive and effective institutions and the rule of law" should include the following targets:

- Free and universal legal identity for all, including birth and death registrations;
- **Freedom of expression** and independent media
- Guarantying **access to public data and to information**, especially related to civic rights, public finance, natural resources management
- Increasing and enabling citizens participation in policy-making processes at all levels, including the most marginalized such as the poorest segments of society, and people with disabilities. Particular attention must be paid to women's full and equal participation in policy- and decision-making processes at all levels
- Process-oriented targets are necessary to focus on the provision of effective, transparent and accountable institutions at all levels, including fair and equitable fiscal systems, and fighting bribery and corruption;
- Strengthen commitment to and enforcement of **Rule of Law** and good governance at national and international level with focus on better access to justice and independence of the judiciary as well as other structures and procedures in accordance with rule of law.
- Strengthen **good financial governance** (including improvement of domestic resource mobilization through sound and just fiscal systems and elimination of corruption and illicit financial flows).
- Finally we would like to highlight the importance of corporate social and environmental responsibility, including enhanced reporting.