

# Response to the Post2015 Zero Draft from the Norwegian ForUM for Development and Environment

---

In this response ForUM has responded to the Declaration (page 1), the Goals and targets (page 9), Means of implementation (page 10), Follow up and review (page 10), and Revised targets (page 14) in the Post2015 Zero Draft from June2015.

All text that we find crucial to keep in the Zero Draft is highlighted in yellow. **Proposals for new text are marked in red.** At the beginning of every chapter we have provided explanations, and summarized our most important messages in red.

The input builds on ForUM's position paper and previous responses to official Post2015 documents, and is coordinated among our member organizations.

## **TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD BY 2030: A NEW AGENDA FOR GLOBAL ACTION**

ForUM has previously responded to the elements paper on a post-2015 declaration, lining out crucial main components and principles that the declaration should cover, (<http://www.forumfor.no/assets/docs/ForUM-Submission-to-the-Post2015-Declaration.pdf> ) **We welcome the declaration** in the zero draft, which contains most of these components. However, there are some fundamental principles and text that should be added to the declaration to guarantee the desired implementation and outcome of the goals and targets:

- **The Declaration must give an urgent call to action:** The language of the background document must better reflect what is at stake with this agenda. “ifs” and “intends” must be replaced by a strong commitment to urgently implement and ultimately meet the ambitions we set for ourselves.
- **Ensure the Declaration prioritizes the poorest and most marginalized groups:**
  - The declaration should state that **action for the poorest and most marginalized people should be prioritized**, and that those furthest behind should be put first. This could for example be done in **para 21**.
  - It should be clearly stated that **no target that address people will be considered met unless met for all social and economic groups**. **Para 21**, where we have proposed language for it, could do this. It could also be integrated into **para 4 or 39**.
- Ensure that the Declaration calls for a universal post-2015 agenda which builds on human rights, good governance and mutual accountability:
  - In the declaration states should **reaffirm to respect, protect and fulfill all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all social and economic groups**. This could for example be done in **para 17**.



The Norwegian Forum  
for Development  
and Environment

- It should not only be stated that **data** should be disaggregated, but also that it **should be transparent and publicly available**. We have proposed language on this in **para 39**.
  - **In para 19**, it is stated that **states will “provide adequate policy space for economic growth”** This could be interpreted as if economic growth may encroach on the social and environmental dimensions of sustainability or outweighs them, is against the principle of coherence, and **should be deleted**.
- To ensure coherence, it should be stated that also the **indicators should seek to cover and intergrate all three dimensions of sustainability** (environmental, social and economic). An integrated approach and the three dimensions are mentioned in paras 9 and 14, but the best option to state it might be in relation to **para 39** on indicators, where we have proposed language for it. This could also be stated in/moved to the follow up and review part of the zero draft. But there indicators are not mentioned.

### **Preamble**

This Agenda is a **plan of action for people, planet and prosperity that also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom**. All countries acting in collaborative partnership will implement the Agenda. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet for present and future generations. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps needed to shift the world on to a sustainable path. As we embark on this collective journey, **we pledge that no one will be left behind**.

The new Agenda sets out, inter alia, to:

- End poverty and hunger;
  - Secure education, health and basic services for all;
  - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;
  - Combat inequalities within and between countries;
  - Foster inclusive economic growth, shared prosperity and sustainable lifestyles for all;
  - Promote safe and inclusive cities and human settlements;
  - Protect the planet, fight climate change, use natural resources sustainably and safeguard our oceans;
  - Strengthen governance and promote peaceful, safe, just and inclusive societies;
- and
- Revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

## **TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD BY 2030: A NEW AGENDA FOR GLOBAL ACTION**

### **Introduction**



The Norwegian Forum  
for Development  
and Environment

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the 193 member States of the United Nations, meeting in New York from 25-27 September 2015 as the Organization celebrates its seventieth anniversary, have agreed today ~~on a new global goals~~ **global plan of action** for the sustainable development of humanity and **the survival** of our planet.
2. On behalf of the peoples we serve, we have adopted a historic agreement on a comprehensive and far-reaching set of **universal** goals and targets. ~~If~~ **When** these are realized, they will transform **for the better** the world in which we all live.
3. We recognize that poverty eradication is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. ~~We will intend~~, between now and 2030, ~~to end poverty and hunger once and for all; to combat inequalities and armed conflicts within and between countries; to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its resources; and to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth and shared prosperity.~~
4. As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that ~~nobody will be left behind~~ **to leave no one behind and to reach those furthest behind first.** ~~We wish to see the~~ **affirm that** goals and targets **will only be fully achieved when they are** met for all economic and social groupings.
5. Having consulted widely with stakeholders, and having made a special effort to listen to the voices and concerns of the poorest and the vulnerable, we are adopting a universal Agenda for sustainable development. **We commit ourselves to working tirelessly for its implementation and for the attainment by 2030 of our shared vision.**
6. This Agenda is of unprecedented scope and significance. Accepted by all countries and applicable to all, it has been agreed following two years of intensive public consultation and engagement around the world. It is the first ever global compact for human development, **peace** and preservation of the planet.
7. This is an **urgent** plan of action for people, planet and prosperity which also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. **It will be implemented by all of us acting in collaborative partnership.** We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet for **the survival of present and** future generations. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps needed to shift the world onto a sustainable footing.
8. Almost fifteen years ago, the Millennium Development Goals were agreed. These provided an important framework for development and significant progress has been made in a number of areas. But the progress has been uneven and some of the Goals remain off-track. We recommit ourselves to the full realization of the off-track MDGs. The new Agenda builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete what these did not achieve.
9. In its scope, however, the framework we are announcing today goes far beyond the MDGs. Alongside traditional development priorities such as health, education and food security and nutrition, it sets out a wide range of economic and environmental objectives and also promises more peaceful, better governed and inclusive societies. **Reflecting the integrated approach that we have**

agreed, there are deep interconnections and many cross-cutting elements across the new goals and targets.

### ***Our commitment and shared principles***

10. We recall the outcomes of major UN conferences and summits which have laid a solid foundation for sustainable development and have helped to shape the new Agenda. These include the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; the Millennium Declaration; the World Summit on Sustainable Development; the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio + 20"); and the latter's follow-up intergovernmental processes. We recall also the synthesis report produced by the Secretary General of the United Nations in December 2014.

11. The new Agenda is guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect for international law. It is grounded also in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments such as the Declaration on the Right to Development. We reaffirm all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

### ***Our world today***

12. We are meeting at a time of immense challenges to sustainable development. There are rising inequalities within and between states. There are enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power. Unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, is growing. Spiraling conflict, violence and extremism, humanitarian crises and a growing migration challenge threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades. Natural resource depletion and adverse impacts of environmental degradation, including drought and the prospect of irreversible climate change add to the list of challenges which humanity faces. The survival of many societies, and of the planet itself, is at risk.

13. These challenges are interrelated and call for integrated solutions. To address them effectively, a new approach is needed. Sustainable development recognizes that eradicating poverty and inequality, preserving the planet and creating inclusive economic growth are linked to each other and interdependent.

14. It is for this reason that we have decided on a set of integrated and indivisible goals which balance three crucial dimensions: the economic, the social and the environmental. Furthermore, these are universal goals which transcend the traditional North/South divide and involve the entire world, rich and poor countries alike, in a new global compact for the betterment of humanity.

### ***Our vision***

15. In the goals and targets which we have agreed, we are setting out a supremely ambitious vision. We envisage a world free of poverty, hunger, disease and want. A world, for example, of safe, and nutritious and sufficient food; of safe and affordable drinking water; of universal access to basic inclusive and equitable quality education; of physical, mental and social well-being, healthy lives



and survival. A world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity; of justice and equality; of respect for race and ethnicity; and of equal opportunity permitting the full realization of every man, woman and child's human potential while promoting shared prosperity. A world in which every woman and girl enjoys full gender equality and all barriers to their empowerment in our societies have been removed. A just, equitable, peaceful, tolerant and inclusive world. And one in which humanity lives in complete harmony with nature, integrating fully the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

### ***The new Agenda***

16. We are announcing today 17 Goals with 169 associated targets. Never before have world leaders pledged common action and endeavor across such a broad policy agenda. We are setting out together on the path towards sustainable development, devoting ourselves collectively to the pursuit of global development and of "win-win" cooperation which can bring huge gains to all countries and all parts of the world. We will implement the Agenda for the full benefit of all, for today's generation and for future generations. In doing so, we reaffirm our commitment to international law and emphasize that the Agenda will be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the rights and obligations of states under international law.

17. This is an Agenda which encompasses all human rights and will promote dignity and equal opportunity for all human beings - every girl, boy, woman and man alike. It will work to ensure that fundamental rights and freedoms are enjoyed by all without discrimination on grounds of age, race, colour, sex, language, religion, culture, migratory status, political or other opinion, national or social origin, economic situation, birth or disability. To this end we reaffirm to respect, protect and fulfill all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all social and economic groups.

18. Working for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the goals and targets. The achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full rights and opportunities. This is also a basic issue of human rights. Women and girls must enjoy equal access to education and equal opportunities for employment with men and boys. All forms of gender inequality, gender-based discrimination and violence against women and children, both boys and girls, will be combatted.

19. The new goals and targets will come into effect on 1 January 2016 and will guide the decisions we take over the next fifteen years. All of us will work to implement the Agenda within our own countries and at the regional and global levels. We will at the same time take into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development. We will respect national policies and priorities and provide adequate policy space for economic growth, in particular for developing states. We acknowledge also the importance of the regional dimension: regional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at national level.

20. Each country faces specific challenges in its pursuit of sustainable development. The most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked

developing countries and small island developing states deserve special attention, as do countries in situations of conflict. There are also serious challenges within many middle-income countries.

21. Vulnerable sections of the population whose needs are reflected in the goals and targets include women, children, youth, people living with disability and older people; the needs of others who are vulnerable, such as migrants, minorities and indigenous peoples, are also reflected. People living in areas affected by conflict, terrorism and complex humanitarian emergencies are also experiencing severe challenges. No target that address people will be considered met unless met for all social and economic groups, and action for the poorest and most marginalized people will be prioritized, putting those furthest behind first.

22. We commit to providing quality education at all levels - early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary - in safe and non-violent learning environments. All people irrespective of age, gender, race or ethnicity, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, children and youth in vulnerable situations, should have equitable access to good-quality education and achieve good learning outcomes that helps them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities and to participate fully in society.

23. To ensure healthy lives extend life expectancy for all, we must achieve universal health coverage without financial hardship and prioritize reaching those furthest behind first. No one must be left behind. We commit to accelerating the progress made to date in reducing newborn infant, child and maternal mortality by ending all preventable deaths of newborns infants, children and expectant mothers by 2030. We shall ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including for family planning, information and education. We will equally accelerate the pace of progress made in fighting malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other communicable diseases and epidemics. At the same time we shall devote greater effort to tackling non-communicable diseases.

24. We will seek to build strong economic foundations for all our countries. Sustainedable and inclusive economic growth is essential for prosperity. We will work to build dynamic, sustainable and people-centred economies, promoting full and productive youth employment in particular and decent work for all that fulfils human rights and labor standards including those on child labor. All countries stand to benefit from having a healthy and well-educated workforce with the knowledge and skills needed for productive and fulfilling work and full participation in society. We will therefore adopt policies which increase productivity and productive employment, financial inclusion, agricultural and industrial development, sustainable transport systems and modern sustainable energy provision.

25. We commit to making fundamental changes in the way that our societies produce and consume goods and services. We recognize our different levels of development and capabilities and agree to work together to mobilize, from all sources, financial, technical and capacity-building support for developing countries. Governments, international organizations, the business sector, other non-state actors and individuals must contribute to changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns.



26. We recognize that sustainable urban development and management are crucial to the quality of life of our people. We will work with local authorities and communities to renew and plan our cities so as to foster community cohesion and personal security and to stimulate innovation and employment. We will reduce the negative impacts of urban activities, including through the safe management and use of chemicals, the reduction and recycling of waste and more efficient use of water and energy. And we will work to minimize the impact of cities on the global climate system.

27. We are determined to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation. The global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. Looking ahead to the COP 21 conference in Paris in December, we underscore the historic responsibility of all States to work for a meaningful and universal climate agreement which will put in place this essential component of a sustainable world. We must also safeguard our oceans and seas, protect biodiversity and promote resilience and disaster preparedness.

28. Sustainable development cannot be realized without peace. The new Agenda recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies, based on respect for human rights (including the right to development), the rule of law and effective and accountable institutions. These are fundamental requirements for the achievement of sustainable development. Factors which give rise to violence, insecurity and injustice, such as corruption and poor governance, are addressed in the Agenda. We must redouble our efforts to resolve or prevent conflict and to support countries emerging from conflict situations so as to lay the foundations for sustainable development. We commit to remove the obstacles to the full realization of the right of self-determination of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which continue to adversely affect their economic and social development as well as their environment.

29. We recognize the intrinsic value of diversity, culture and sport as enablers of sustainable development. We acknowledge the natural and cultural diversity of the world and recognize that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to sustainable development. We pledge to foster intercultural understanding, tolerance, mutual respect and an ethic of global citizenship and shared responsibility.

### **Implementation**

30. The new Agenda deals also with the means required for implementation of the goals and targets. We recognize that these will require significant and equitable the mobilization of financial resources (both public and private, domestic and international) by all Member States, as well as scaling-up capacity-building at all levels, strengthened international cooperation on tax matters, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and a wide range of other supportive policies, actions and measures. Business, the private sector and philanthropic organizations will feature prominently in relation to resource mobilization and implementation of the Agenda.

31. We welcome and endorse fully the outcome document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13-16 July 2015.

32. The fulfilment of Official Development Assistance commitments in a timely and urgent matter remains critically important in supporting the sustainable development needs of countries and regions, in particular least developed countries, small island developing states and countries in Africa. These needs include support for domestic resource mobilization to ensure that financing is sustainable in the long term. We shall accelerate full implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway and the Vienna Programme of Action for Land-Locked Developing Countries.

33. We recognize the central role that science, technology and innovation play in enabling the international community to respond to sustainable development challenges. We recognize the power of communications technologies, technical cooperation and capacity-building for sustainable development.

34. We are committed to a well-functioning, equitable and rules-based multilateral trading system for the realization of the new Agenda. We resolve to work together to enhance macro-economic and financial stability through improved policy coordination and coherence. We resolve to reach early agreement in the Doha Development Round of trade negotiations. We attach great importance to providing trade-related capacity-building for least developed countries.

35. We acknowledge the need for international financial institutions to respect the domestic policy space of all countries, in particular developing countries and least developed countries. We agree to work to increase the representation of developing countries, and their involvement in decision making, in these institutions.

36. The scale and ambition of the new Agenda calls for a renewed and strengthened Global Partnership to implement it. This Partnership will work in a spirit of global solidarity, in particular solidarity with the poorest and the vulnerable. It will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of implementation of the goals and targets, bringing together Governments, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources. Inclusive and transparent multi-stakeholder partnerships will be needed to support specific priorities under the Agenda and to mobilize the requisite resources, including for high quality disaggregated data.

37. We emphasize more generally the critical importance of engaging all relevant stakeholders in implementation of the new Agenda. Governments and public institutions will work closely in this regard with national parliaments, local authorities, international institutions, business and the private sector, civil society, academia, philanthropic organizations, voluntary groups and others.

### ***Follow-up and review***

38. Our Governments will be responsible for follow-up and review, at the national, regional and global levels, in relation to the progress made in implementing the goals and targets over the

coming fifteen years. To support this accountability, provision has been made - and is detailed in Chapter 4 below - for systematic follow-up and review of implementation at the various levels.

39. We look forward to the development of indicators to assist this work. **To ensure coherence, the indicators should seek to cover and integrate all three dimensions of sustainability. Quality disaggregated, transparent and publicly available data will be needed to help with the measurement of progress. We agree to intensify our efforts to strengthen statistical capacities in developing countries, particularly least developed countries and other countries in special situations.** We also commit to scaling up substantially public-private cooperation to exploit the contribution to be made by a wide range of data, including geo-spatial information, in supporting and tracking progress.

### ***A call for action to change our world***

40. Seventy years ago, an earlier generation of world leaders came together to create the United Nations. From the ashes of war and division they fashioned this Organization and the values of peace, dialogue and international cooperation which underpin it. The supreme embodiment of those values is the Charter of the United Nations.

41. Today we are taking a decision of comparable significance. Ours can be the first generation to succeed in ending poverty; just as we are the last to have a chance of saving the planet. We have resolved to build a better future for millions of people in our world, millions who have been denied the chance to lead decent, dignified and rewarding lives and to achieve their full human potential. The world will be a better place in 2030 if we succeed in our objectives.

42. What we are announcing today- an agenda for global action for the next fifteen years - is a charter for people and planet in the twenty-first century.

43. "We the Peoples" are the celebrated opening words of the UN Charter. It is "We the Peoples" who are embarking today on the road to 2030. Our journey will involve Governments, Parliaments, local authorities, business and the private sector, the scientific and academic community, civil society and ordinary citizens. Millions have already engaged with, and will own, this agenda. It is an agenda by and for the people - and this, we believe, will ensure its success.

44. The future of humanity and of our planet lies in our hands. It lies also in the hands of today's younger generation, who will pass the torch to future generations. We have mapped the road to sustainable development; it will be for all of us to ensure that the journey is irreversible.

## I. Sustainable Development Goals and targets

ForUM has previously responded to these goals and targets from the Open Working Group at: <http://www.forumfor.no/assets/docs/ForUM%E2%80%99s-response-to-OWG-final-recommendations-on-goals-and-targets.pdf>

## II. Means of implementation and the Global Partnership

At this stage in the negotiations ForUM will focus its input concerning means of implementation towards the negotiations in the Financing for Development process (FfD). This is because we would like to put weight on FfD and its outcome, where measures for financing is negotiated on a detailed level, and avoid encouraging parallel negotiations on the same things in two processes, which we think would undermine the FfD-process.

ForUM recommends that Norway **ensure alignment between the post-2015 and Financing for Development commitments**, including for the follow-up and review processes. While there is substantial overlap in coverage between the post-2015 MoI targets and the commitments in the current draft FfD outcome document, both agendas have elements that are not included in the other. The two agendas must therefore be aligned, **without resulting in the loss or neglect of commitments and targets from either agenda**.

Ultimately, it is of utmost importance to:

- i. Ensure that all MoI targets and financing commitments from both processes are monitored through harmonized and robust follow-up and review, receiving at least the same or greater attention as other post-2015 targets; and
- ii. Clarify how the post-2015 MoI targets should be interpreted. The MoI and Global Partnership section of the outcome document should act as an “action plan” for taking MoI and other relevant financing targets forward, drawing on the FFD outcome document to highlight key milestones and timeframes, thereby bolstering accountability for *how* the post-2015 development agenda will be delivered.

## III. Follow-up and review

We welcome the text on follow up and review, and have highlighted parts that are especially important to sustain in yellow. However would like to point out that that:

- Member States should strengthen the focus on core **principles underpinning a people-centered follow-up** and review process such as **universality, participation, accountability, and equality**. We have proposed language for this in **para 3**.
- **Para 2** states that “**member states will engage voluntarily in review processes**”, which **makes a non-binding document even weaker**. The declaration is a document which is supposed to express vision, commitment and political will and intension, and the word voluntarily should be deleted. The same applies to **para 9**.
- To achieve the goals, **we strongly recommend that transparency is included in para 3**.

1. A robust, effective, **inclusive and transparent follow-up and review framework**, operating at the national, regional and global levels, will promote effective implementation of this Agenda and accountability to our citizens.
2. All member states will engage **voluntarily** in review processes, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. As national ownership is key to achieving sustainable development, outcomes from national-level processes will inform reviews at both regional and global levels.
3. Follow-up and review processes shall be **people-centered and guided by the following principles:**
  - a. They will address progress in implementing the **universal goals and targets in all countries**, including the means of implementation, **in their entirety**, in a manner which respects their integrated and inter-related nature.
  - b. They will maintain a longer-term orientation, identify achievements and critical success factors, support countries in making informed policy choices and mobilize the necessary means of implementation and partnerships;
  - c. They will be open, **transparent and inclusive**, and **strengthen accountability between states and citizens**, supported by an enabling environment for the **meaningful** participation of all people and stakeholders, **including children, young people and disadvantaged and marginalized groups**, and **guided by human rights and the agreed principle of leaving no one behind**.
  - d. They will build on existing platforms and processes, **including international human rights mechanisms**, evolve over time and minimize the reporting burden on national administrations.
  - e. They will be rigorous and evidence-based, informed by data which is timely, reliable, **transparent** and disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts. Support for developing countries, particularly LDCs, to strengthen national data systems is critical.
  - f. **They will focus on progress for the social and economic groups that are the furthest behind, and monitor inequalities within and between countries.**

#### *National Level*

4. Building on existing reporting and planning instruments, such as national sustainable development strategies, we **commit** ~~encourage all member states to~~ develop ambitious and **transparent** national responses to the SDGs and targets ~~as soon as possible by the opening of the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2016.~~
5. **Each member state will could**, at least once every four years, conduct robust, **participatory** and inclusive reviews of progress, based on a publicly available government progress report and complemented by contributions from civil society, academia, local government, the UN system, private sector and other actors. National Parliaments **and independent accountability institutions should** ~~can~~ play an important role in review processes as well as other national institutions such as National Sustainable Development Councils and local authorities.

#### *Regional Level*

6. Follow-up and review at the regional level can, as appropriate, provide useful opportunities for mutual learning, cooperation on trans-boundary issues and discussion on shared targets. Regional reviews, including peer reviews, can draw on national-level reviews and contribute to follow-up and review at the global level, including at the High Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF).

7. We encourage all member states to identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage, using existing regional mechanisms including UN regional commissions where possible. We encourage the HLPF, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), to discuss, at its meeting in 2016, progress in establishing regional reviews of the Agenda.

### *Global Level*

8. The HLPF will be the apex of a global network of review processes, working coherently with the General Assembly, ECOSOC and other relevant actors, in accordance with existing mandates. It will facilitate sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, and promote system-wide coherence and coordination of sustainable development policies. Adequate linkages will be made with the follow-up and review of UN Conferences on LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and countries in special situations.

9. We reaffirm that the HLPF, under the auspices of ECOSOC, shall carry out regular reviews of progress in line with Resolution 67/290, **and we commit to ensure that the HLPF has sufficient human and financial resources to fulfil its mandate. Reviews will include staggered peer reviews of national progress of each Member State every 4 years based on a national report, a summary of inputs from civil society and other stakeholders, and a summary of information from the UN system including inputs from the Universal Periodic Review and UN human rights treaty bodies. Reviews will be voluntary, while encouraging include open, inclusive and participatory reporting, and include developed and developing countries as well as relevant UN entities. They shall be State led, involving ministerial and other relevant high-level participants. They shall focus on assessment of progress, achievements and challenges faced by developed and developing countries, offer recommendations to support implementation and report on steps taken by countries to follow-up previous recommendations, and provide a platform for partnerships, including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders. Reviews shall also consider progress of all social and economic groups in order to leave no one behind.**

10. Thematic reviews of progress may also take place at the HLPF and in other inter-governmental forums, including the ECOSOC functional commissions and other relevant subsidiary bodies and mechanisms, **and should focus on progress for the poorest and most marginalized groups.** These reviews will be aligned with the cycle and work of the HLPF, where possible.

11. Sufficient time should also be given at the HLPF, under the auspices of ECOSOC, to review progress on implementing the means of implementation of this Agenda. **This should include regular review of the contributions that Member States, multilateral agencies and other stakeholders are making towards MoI targets. This review should be closely aligned with Financing for Development**

review processes. [ to be updated following the Third International Conference on Financing for Development].

12. Follow-up and reviews at the HLPF would be informed by the Global Sustainable Development Report, the scope and methodology of which will be agreed as soon as possible. An annual SDG Progress Report will be prepared by the UN Inter Agency and Expert Group on SDG indicators, based on data from national statistical systems to monitor a core set of global indicators.

13. Meeting every four years under the auspices of the General Assembly, the HLPF will provide high level political guidance on the agenda and its implementation, identify progress and emerging challenges and mobilize further actions to accelerate implementation. The next HLPF, under the auspices of the General Assembly, will take place in 2019-2016 to encourage immediate implementation of the agenda, with the cycle of meetings thus reset, in order to maximize coherence with the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review process.

14. In line with Resolution 67/290, the HLPF will support- ensure meaningful participation in follow up and review processes by civil society, the major groups, the UN System, relevant multi-stakeholder partnerships, the private sector and other stakeholders.

15. We also welcome the on-going ECOSOC Dialogues on the Longer Term Positioning of the UN Development System and look forward to discussing these issues in the forthcoming Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review process, as the main vehicle to give guidance to the UN system's country level work.

16. We request the Secretary General to prepare guidelines for national reports and review processes including recommendations on timelines for implementation and review, citizen participation and steps to raise public awareness of the SDGs. We also request the Secretary General to provide recommendations on the organizational arrangements for state-led reviews at the HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC, including peer reviews, participation of other stakeholders, and steps to improve complementarity, coherence and efficiency of follow-up and review processes at the global level in the area of sustainable development.



## Annex 1: Proposed Target revisions

ForUM recognizes a number of improvements in the "Revised targets document" released by the Co-Facilitators on 7 May 2015 compared to the 23 March 2015 version. We strongly believe that any revision of the **targets should increase the level of ambition** from the previous OWG document and should not result in backtracking from existing international commitments.

ForUM strongly **recommends the following text changes** in order to strengthen some of the proposed revised targets:

- ForUM welcomes the alignment with the Aichi Targets timeframe and the recognition that further action is needed by 2030 under revised targets **15.1 and 15.5**. However, ForUM strongly suggests removing the sentence "and take further action as needed by 2030" from targets 15.1 and 15.5 and substitute it with the following formulation to ensure continued and effective action through 2030: **"ensure that the progress is surpassed by 2030"**.
- ForUM is **concerned about the proposal to postpone the timeline to halt deforestation from 2020 to 2030 in target 15.2**. This is severely weakening the original target agreed in the OWG. The argumentation for delaying the timeline is to make it more consistent with the Aichi Targets. However, Aichi Target 5 states to at least halve deforestation before 2020, and to bring it close to zero where possible. Keeping the original OWG formulation of target 15.2 would therefore be more in line with Aichi Target 5 than the new proposal to revise the timeline to 2030. Still, it is positive that a reference is added to "in line with obligations under international agreements", since this must be interpreted as an obligation to work for the Aichi target to bring deforestation close to zero till 2020 where possible. ForUM also recommends adding at the end of 15.2 the sentence **"ensure that the progress is surpassed by 2030"** in order to make it consistent with the proposed revised targets 15.1 and 15.5.
- For target **15.3** on combatting desertification, ForUM recommends reinserting the 2020 deadline to ensure alignment with the Aichi Targets and to avoid the risk of lowering the level of ambition and delaying action. Furthermore, as proposed for revised targets 15.1, 15.2 and 15.5 ForUM suggests adding at the end of the target the sentence **"ensure that the progress is surpassed by 2030"**.

ForUM notes with satisfaction the following improvements in the proposed "Revised Targets Document" and finds it **important that Norway supports these**:

- The inclusion of *"including through assistance to those affected by complex humanitarian emergencies"* in **1.5**.
- The inclusion of *"all countries aiming to reduce ( ... )"*, and the addition of numerical targets for preventable deaths of newborns and children under five years of age in target **3.2**. These additions complement existing ambitious promises, and bolster accountability of commitments.



- The proposal that the text on the use of TRIPs flexibilities to provide access to medicines for all stays in **3.b** instead of being removed, since the implementation of the current WTO agreement does not always work satisfactory.
- The inclusion in **4.4** to *"ensure that all youth and adults"* have relevant skills.
- The inclusion in **4.6** to *"ensure that all youth and adults, both men and women, reach a proficiency level in literacy and numeracy sufficient to fully participate in society"*.
- The inclusion in **4.c** that *"all learners are taught by qualified teachers"*.
- The inclusion of the wording *"at least doubling"* in target **6.3** on improving water quality.
- The inclusion in **8.7** to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate recruitment and use of child soldiers.
- The inclusion of *"fragmentation"* under target **15.5** on reducing the degradation of natural habitat as it reflects a stronger alignment with the Aichi targets.
- The proposal for target **14.c**, which makes it consistent with the annual GA omnibus resolution on oceans and the law of the sea.

In addition, target **6.6** is proposed to be revised from *"By 2020, protect and restore water related ecosystems/including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes"* to *"By 2030, water related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes have been fully protected and restored"*. Our reading is that **although the language has been strengthened, the timeline is weakened**. Hence, we encourage the Norwegian delegation to review this target with reference to existing commitments including Aichi target 14, which states that: *"By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable"*, and ensure that this commitment is not weakened.