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Statement

Ву

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to the United Nations

At

The 69th Session of the General Assembly during Informal meeting of the plenary on stock-taking in the process of intergovernmental negotiations on the post 2015 development agenda

New York January 20, 2015

Please Check Against Delivery

Distinguished Co-facilitators,

Dear delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

My delegation wishes to align itself with the statements delivered by the distinguished representatives of South Africa, Morocco and Benin on behalf of the G77 and China, African Group, and LDC's respectively.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you co-facilitators for organizing this debate on post 2015 development agenda. I wish to state that during our negotiations, we must not lose sight of the lessons learnt from MDGs and build on its successes while correcting the short comings in order to formulate a new and transformative post 2015 development agenda.

Co-facilitators, we are of the view that eradication of poverty is the responsibility of all governments. It is particularly important to keep in mind that national governments have the primary role to lead all efforts in poverty eradication. It is therefore our expectation that once the agenda has been set, our governments will be able to integrate its goals and targets in their national development plans and priorities, with development partners playing a supportive role in an enhanced partnership if we are to do things differently.

Co-Facilitators,

It is important to recall that two-thirds of the African countries still have to deal with their unique challenges notably desertification, land degradation and drought which continue to reduce on the available arable land. This is of particular concern given that the majority of poor households in Africa depend on land for subsistence agriculture. Therefore, any attempt to address poverty in these countries must target reclaiming the degraded land.

In the same vein, framing of the post 2015 development agenda must pay attention to the linkages between climate change on one hand and desertification, land degradation and drought on the other, which again have a bearing on agricultural production, food security, nutrition and morbidity and overall productivity.

Distinguished Co-Facilitators,

In brief and specific terms, this is what is required;

- 1. Within the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, let us differentiate the targets to be pursued by the international community and other stakeholders from those to be pursued by national governments in implementing the agenda to enhance accountability by all players.
- 2. Let us identify the means of implementation in order to achieve the universal SDGs
- 3. Design a periodic review mechanism to monitor progress and guide policy realignment whenever it becomes necessary

Co-facilitators, post 2015 development agenda should be an opportunity to finally agree on issues which have been pending for a long time. If it is our determination to end poverty in all its forms, we should not shy away from seeking consensus on issues such as migration, market access, climate change, technology transfer among others because of the direct roles they play in poverty eradication.

Lastly but not the least Co-facilitators, is that in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, special attention must be paid to negative forces which continue to destabilize many countries and in effect derail efforts towards poverty eradication. We have a strong belief that the contribution of peace and stability to development is obvious and cannot not be overemphasized. The destruction of physical infrastructure, displacement of communities and loss of life and property are just a few evils associated with activities of negative forces particularly in Africa. The post 2015 transformative agenda must target to liberate world communities from insecurity and deliver them to peace and prosperity.

My delegation remains available for further engagement as we embark on the negotiations of the post 2015 development agenda.

I thank you.