

Intervention_Croatia_20-2-2015

Distinguished co-facilitators,

Thank you for compiling the discussion document for declaration in such a comprehensive way. The paper is getting us closer to the draft declaration in an inclusive and transparent manner.

Croatia aligns itself with the intervention made by the EU yesterday, and we want to add some - what we consider to be - complementary remarks. It is really commendable that you managed to keep the document short and concise as promised.

We are particularly satisfied that in your paper you have found place for peaceful and inclusive societies. We would be even more satisfied if there is a clearer reflection of transformative and people-centered agenda, and that the document talks in the name of people, rather than to the people,

Most of us argue that the Declaration should convey a strong political message and call for action, we think that offered elements give us good material to formulate that message. In our view, the transformative character of the agenda should also be reflected as a need for securing sustainable planet in all its biodiversity.

Regarding challenges and opportunities for the post 2015 development agenda, the vital role of science and knowledge needs to find its place in the Declaration as well.

We fully agree with previous speakers who have stressed that the gender equality, human rights, democratic governance and Rule of Law should gain more prominence in the document. In our opinion, it would be worth to include the fundamental freedoms in the same context as well.

On the first reading we would rearrange particular elements in different order but that is rather a minor issue, and we would like to stress again that, thanks to your efforts, we have made a great progress on the way to the declaration we want.

Thank you.