



# नेपाल NEPAL

**Remarks by His Excellency Durga P. Bhattarai, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations, at the third session of the Informal meeting of the UNGA plenary in the process of IGN on PTDA, concerning the six themes for UN Summit 2015 as proposed by the Facilitators**

New York, 26 March 2015

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Distinguished Co-facilitators,

I thank you very much for giving me the floor.

I align my remarks with the remarks made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; and I wish to quickly touch on a few points of importance to my delegation. I will not be making any elaborate comments on the themes at this stage.

Thank you for the six themes you proposed for interactive dialogues at the UN Summit this September. They are already very good and, at a closer look, we see rooms for improvement when we think about what we want to achieve with them.

While the themes at the Summit need to be balanced among the three pillars of sustainable development (for which a matrix of topics by the three pillars may be of help), through these themes, we should be able to convey a strong message of our collective determination to 'leave no one behind', especially 'the bottom billion' where the poverty is concentrated.

In particular, the theme related to poverty should be able to further inspire the determination of LDCs to achieve sustainable and transformative graduation, even against the reality of the unfinished business of the MDGs.

The theme may be reformulated as 'eradication of poverty in all its forms and manifestations' to capture the essence of everyone's purpose and aspirations concerning poverty.

In any case, it should also directly relate to the concerns of the countries in special situation—the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, which in fact could be a separate topic in its own right.

Likewise, under the social pillar, the issues of health and education, and water and sanitation across children, women, youth and old need to be dealt with head on.

Under the environmental pillar, the theme should not leave out climate change, and should inspire a culture of green living with forests, mountains and oceans in harmony with the Mother Earth/Nature as a whole.

On the whole, the themes should generate a sense of ownership in all countries and stakeholders, such that all stakeholders can relate their own perspective to each of the themes, for their benefit, and for greater common good of all.

Thank you, distinguished Co-facilitators.