

**Statement by Ms. Oh Youngju
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Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea
Post-2015 Intergovernmental Negotiations (Indicators)
23 March 2015, New York**

Thank you, Mr. Co-facilitators.

At the outset, I would like to thank you for providing us with the opportunity to better understand progress in the work on indicators. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the Chair as well as other speakers of the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) for their informative presentation and concrete responses.

Co-facilitators,

The Republic of Korea values the preliminary report by the UNSC. Recognizing that the proposed provisional indicators need technical review among national experts, we will make continued endeavor to constructively engage in future process. We also welcome the formation of the IAEG-SDGs and would like to emphasize that the group's activities should be conducted in an open and transparent manner.

Let me share a few comments on the key principles of developing an indicator framework. First, we need to ensure a transparent and participatory process that is bottom-up, making voices from the field heard. In this regard, it is important to remember our Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) experience of having a

set of core global indicators that were easily communicable to the general public.

Second, we should also take into account the three aspects of a global indicator framework: measurability, collectibility, and comparability. Some post-2015 development goals, such as governance and the rule of law, would be value-oriented and qualitative by nature, thus requiring a careful approach to measure their targets. Also, there is a possibility that due to capacity constraints and decentralized statistical systems, some countries may experience difficulties in collecting the necessary and appropriate data for indicators. Moreover, global indicators would need to be comparable across national contexts.

Last but not least, developing a global indicator framework does require sufficient time for elaborate preparation. Therefore, the Korean Government supports the current plan to finalize an indicator framework at the next UNSC session in March, 2016.

Co-facilitators,

At this point, allow me to further elaborate on some technical aspects of indicators. Indicators must be relevant, clearly defined, and able to measure the targets of the post-2015 development agenda. This means clear targets are a prerequisite for clear indicators. In this regard, we welcome the review done by the UN system and expect to have substantive and constructive discussions on the proposal to make the targets robust and measurable. In particular, it is crucial that we address the question of possible inter-linkages and overlapping targets. Also, there are those targets whose complex nature might require us to come up with appropriate indicators.

To leave no one behind, indicators must also be disaggregated taking into account gender, age, region, and vulnerable groups. However, they should be limited in number based on the experiences of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), while maintaining policy relevance.

In addition, flexibility is important as there may be a need to develop new indicators to measure targets. There should be room for refinements and adjustments in line with changing policy priorities. We have done this in the MDGs era; in 2007, three targets and twelve indicators were newly approved. Therefore, I recommend that national statistical offices continue to work with the UN as we move forward.

Co-facilitators,

In closing, I would like to reiterate the importance of monitoring for successful post-2015 implementation. To build a comprehensive monitoring mechanism, we need an integrated structure of global, regional, national, and thematic indicators. This is why the role of national statistical offices is critical, and strengthening their capacity is vital. In this context, the Republic of Korea stands ready to share our experiences as well as to contribute to global endeavor in this field.

I thank you, Mr. Co-Facilitator. /END/