

Statement before the HLPF Ministerial by the Islamic Republic of Iran

Thank you Mr. President. Associating my delegation with the statement of the G77 and China and having followed the discussions during the past couple of days attentively, allow me to make a couple of remarks:

MDGs created an extraordinary momentum to address poverty related ills. Overall, achievements were remarkable. Many, however, continue to lag behind. Progress has been uneven within and between countries. Our business is unfinished. This has a bearing on our collective resolve to shape an ambitious and transformative post-2015 development agenda. We need an undivided focus on multi-faceted sustainable development challenges.

Poverty eradication should remain as the central objective of the post-2015 agenda. We, however, need to move from just addressing the symptoms of underdevelopment.

The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities continues to underpin our collective efforts. By balancing needs and responsibilities, it constitutes the basis for global partnership. It'll remain key to elaboration of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

We need to agree and commit to a new phase of international cooperation. A genuine global partnership for development plays a pivotal role for both fulfilling the unmet commitments under the MDGs and implementing the post-2015 Development Agenda. This requires committing to availability and adequacy of as well as providing equitable and non-discriminatory access to means of implementation to developing countries to enable them to deliver on the Agenda. This way we shall ensure "leaving no one behind", is at reach.

A solid and strong HLPF, visionary but practical, is in a unique position to support advancing the agenda. It should demonstrate high level political leadership and guide on the Agenda and its implementation.

SDGs, by nature, are aspirational targets. This very nature defines what kind of a review process should be envisaged. The Forum, in accordance with its mandate, plays a major role in voluntary and state led review process. A major part of the process is a consistent and efficient but simple and light reporting format on the efforts undertaken, with due regard to minimizing the burden on countries.

To secure universality, review of effectiveness of the global partnership as well as availability and adequacy of means of implementation, should constitute an integral part of the review process.

National reviews are fundamental for regional and global level reviews. Like the Agenda itself, the review process should recognize differences in national circumstances, capacities and stages of development. The Member States, moreover, should be provided with policy space to adjust the SDGs to their national development strategies and plans. This shall induce national ownership.

The review process should be reinforced by creating adequate interlinkages to the follow up and review of other major UN conferences. As such, FfD and post-2015 are two separate but complementary processes. While FfD addresses a wider scope under the Monterrey Conference, means of implementation under the post-2015 agenda is in addition to and independent of the FfD outcome.

In conclusion, HLPF should live up more vigorously to its mission on providing policy guidance on sustainable development issues. It therefore needs to simplify and enhance efficiency and effectiveness of its proceedings, including through streamlining the panel discussions.

I thank you very much.