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**Statement by
H. E. Mr. Desra Percaya
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations**

The First Meeting of the Sustainable Development Goals
Open Working Group
(New York, 14 March 2013)

Thank you Mr. Co-chairs,

I have the honor to associate this statement with the statement made by Fiji on behalf of the G77 and China as well as the statement by China on behalf of the Troika consists of China, Indonesia and Kazakhstan.

First and foremost, allow me to extend my hearty congratulation on your election as the co-chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

As the co-chairs, you are mandated with herculean tasks to ensure that the Working Group is able to submit a report that is comprehensive, action-oriented, concise and incorporate all the three dimensions of sustainable development and its interlinkages in a balanced manner, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities.

I am confident that under your wisdom and able leadership, our future deliberation on the sustainable development goals will be able to reach these endeavors in an open, transparent and comprehensive manner. Please rest assured that Indonesia stands ready to engage in an open and constructive deliberation of the Working Group.

Mr. Co-Chairs,

As the main reference point to ensure the realization of sustainable development, and to address future development challenges, Indonesia fervently believes that a timely and comprehensive implementation of the commitments contained in the “Future We Want” is imperative.

In this regard, allow me to share a handful of point of observations with regard to this Working Group.

First, with regard to the principles contained in the Rio+20 outcome, the SDGs must be global in nature and applicable to all countries. In this regard, I would like to reaffirm Indonesia fervent belief that the efforts to develop these goals must be guided by the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility, as the basic principles contained in the original Rio Declaration.

We are of the view that in the substantive discussions of the Working Group, the principles of equity and CBDR should be translated into the proposed SDGs’ elements along with its operating concepts.

Second, it is our fervent view that the discussion shall address and be focused on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development, and being guided by the present outcome document, with the active involvement of all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate.

Third, with regard to its method of work, it is our fervent believe that the work of the Working Group shall be an inclusive and transparent inter-governmental process, based on the principle of consensus among members.

Fourth, Indonesia is of the view that considering the current implementation of MDGs, the post-2015 and SDGs process happening in the same period of time, we have a unique opportunity to create a comprehensive development agenda for the future.

We realize that there is a wide expectation for the future development agenda of the UN to address how to eliminate poverty and global inequality.

To this end, it is imperative that the SDGs discussions from now until the 68th session of the UN General Assembly, should be guided by paragraph 246 Rio+20 outcome that the sustainable development goals should be coherent with and integrated into the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015. It should also be parallel with the discussions for shaping the development agenda after the completion of MDGs deadline in 2015. Therefore, the work of the OWG on SDGs is very much pivotal, as part and parcel of the intergovernmental process for shaping the development agenda beyond 2015.

Finally, it is our utmost hope that the OWG on SDGs could start its substantive work in the immediate future, to ensure a collaborative and coherent intergovernmental process for the shaping of a post-2015 development framework could take place in a timely manner.

I thank you.