



***Jordan***

PERMANENT MISSION OF H.K. OF JORDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

STATEMENT

BY

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FIRST SECRETARY

ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPEN  
WORKING GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ON FOCUS AREA 3: HEALTH AND POPULATION DYNAMICS,  
FOCUS AREA 4: EDUCATION AND LIFE-LONG LEARNING,  
FOCUS AREA 7: ENERGY  
FOCUS AREA 8: ECONOMIC GROWTH, EMPLOYMENT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE

NEW YORK, 5-9 MAY 2014

**Mr. Co-Chair,**

At the outset, I wish to thank you for your efforts and for presenting the revised Focus Areas Document. My delegation supports your constructive approach to reflect the various suggestions and to refine the goals and targets. In this context, we welcome the focus areas which could provide good basis for stand-alone goals. Nonetheless, my delegation wishes to underline the following:

- We welcome the continued efforts to integrate the three dimensions of sustainability.
- We reiterate the need to ensure access to health, educational and economic services for the most vulnerable and marginalized in order to fully integrate them in the post 2015 development agenda.
- We also consider the inter-linkages between areas which should be recognized. For instance, in order to realize the economic, social and environmental objectives and achieve sustainable development, the relevance of mental health and well-being needs to be addressed. It's cross cutting nature could result in positive developments, therefore in the title of focus area three as well as in target c we suggest inserting well-being after health.
- Regarding population dynamics, we renew our commitment to the importance of deliberate action for promoting reproductive health and family planning programs through the provision of quality RH/FP information and services, especially to the marginalized groups in order to reach the demographic opportunity peak by 2030 and sustain the achievement of the fourth and fifth MDG goals.
- We also underscore the importance of including the outcome of the ICPD review into the global post 2015 development agenda and wish to underline the importance of taking into account the national priorities and socio-economic characteristics when implementing the program of action.
- In relation to target (f) we recommend the use of the agreed language from the Rio+20 outcome document in particular paragraphs (145 and 241).
- In focus area four on education, we suggest the addition of physically and mentally to the target of providing a safe; learning environment for all students.

- We also welcome the targets suggested under focus area 7 and stress the importance of galvanizing efforts to ensure improved universal access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services which are instrumental for achieving sustainable development.
- In relation to the focus area on Economic growth, employment and infrastructure, we suggest the use of the agreed language from the Rio+20 outcome document. My delegation also supports the suggested targets and reiterates the necessity to clearly mainstream youth issues into the future sustainable development goals. It is also essential to ensure that all youth transition effectively into the labor market through strengthening the links between education outputs and labor market needs as well as by enhancing vocational and technological training.
- We also recommend adding a target that integrates “mindset” training into employment training which is proving to be a useful approach to ensure employment success. Additionally we suggest adding a new target on providing Employee Social Protection and Assistance Programs as this could help in reaching productive work. Furthermore, we suggest the addition of another target that recognizes the social value of work beyond economics.
- In conclusion, more efforts should be exerted to reconcile international and national sources of statistics and information. The use of credible national data should be encouraged in assessing progress.

**I thank you.**