

**TALKING NOTES BY H.E AMB MACHARIA KAMAU PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE REPORT OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON THE SDGS DURING THE SHERPAS MEETING AT THE AU OBSERVER MISSION ON 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2014**

---

Excellences,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour to make a few remarks during this Sherpas meeting convened by the AU Observer Mission on the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). I thank you for convening this meeting and for inviting me to speak.

During the last Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals where I was the Co-Chair, a total of thirteen sessions took place. Eight sessions were for stocktaking while the remaining five were used to consolidate the final SDG document. During the sessions, member states and major groups were given an opportunity to make contributions to various topics under discussion.

It was agreed that the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals must be finished implying that those MDGs targets that are not yet achieved would remain in the new agenda. Amongst them, eradication of poverty was identified as an overriding priority for the new framework.

The goals have met the various criteria set out by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in particular being universally applicable to all countries yet adaptable to different countries circumstances and balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development

Unlike the MDGs which were meant for developing countries, the SDGs are universal in nature. They will galvanize international development cooperation and action towards sustained economic growth and employment creation, poverty eradication, protection of environment and social inclusion. There was an understanding that the goals should maintain a high level of ambition which I hope they do. The goals and targets are closely interlinked, such that targets in some goals significantly contribute to the achievement of other goals altogether. While targets need to focus on measurable outcomes, they also address enablers and the means to achieve them.

On 10th September, 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the proposal of the Open Working Group SDG document contained in document A/68/970 as the main basis for integrating SDGs into the Post 2015 Development Agenda. The SDG report which contains 17 goals and 169 targets will form an input of the synthesis report which will comprise the outcomes of other related processes such as the intergovernmental committee of experts on sustainable Development Financing and technology facilitation mechanisms dialogues that have also submitted their reports for subsequent inclusion in the synthesis report. The OWG-SDG report presents us all with an opportunity to pursue transformative sustainable development

agenda. It contains the broader economic, social and environmental issues. They cover economic growth, sustainability of the earth and its life support systems as well as governance and peaceful societies.

The goals in the report transform the way we carry out business, ending poverty in all its forms everywhere, reducing inequalities within and among nations and tackling climate change, biodiversity loss and restoration of degraded ecosystems are contained in the report.

The unfinished business of the MDGs such as ending epidemics of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other neglected tropical diseases, ending hunger and eliminating gender inequality are included.

To stimulate socio-economic welfare and sustainability of the ecosystems, investing in key sectors of economic growth, energy, infrastructure, industrialization and innovation. Addressing climate change and sustainable consumption and production will be important.

Reducing inequalities within and among nations is important given the universal nature of the post 2015 development agenda. Both developed and developing countries will have to undertake domestic and international commitments across the goals based on their common but differentiated responsibilities, national capabilities, priorities and circumstances.

The high level stock taking session of the post 2015 Development Agenda which took place a few days ago provided insights as to the kind of the

synthesis report members expect. We look forward to the Secretary General presenting a synthesis report containing the SDGs, their possible financing mechanisms and options for technology facilitations mechanisms.

We expect a report which will present a coherent set of proposals on SDG, means of implementation and global partnerships that together make up an ambitious, action oriented agenda. Specific emphasis on new global partnerships for sustainable development remains key as this will provide the modus operandi for the implementation process.

Members expect this process to capture their aspirations. They look forward to having SDGs at the heart of the post 2015 Development Agenda.

Thank You

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

- Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Goal 2: End hunger achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive safe resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and impacts
- Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- Goal 15: Protect restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems sustainably manage forests combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development provide access to justice for all and build effective accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnerships for sustainable development.

