



The Norwegian Forum
for Development
and Environment

Comments to the 26th July 2015 draft for adoption: 'Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'

From the Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM)

ForUM welcomes the final July draft of the Post-2015 outcome document. **Please see in red our proposals for new text.**

ForUM's key recommendations:

- Stronger language on human rights, leaving no-one behind
- Accountability and transparency both for governments and private sector to ensure protection of people and planet, inclusion, efficient implementation, follow-up and review

(See our detailed reaction to the June draft here:

<http://www.forumfor.no/assets/docs/ForUMs-response-to-the-Post2015-Zero-Draft-June-2015.pdf>)

Preamble reflecting all human rights:

People

We want to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential. We want to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions; end hunger and malnutrition; achieve food security; promote human dignity; combat inequalities in and between countries; achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; ensure quality education, water and sanitation and a healthy life for all; ensure equal access to natural resources, a healthy environment and well-being for all; and secure **all human rights for all**, the participation of all people and groups, including children, persons with disabilities, migrants and indigenous peoples, in the realization of the Goals and targets.

Leave no-one behind:

Para 4 As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the **rights and** dignity of the human person is fundamental, we **will strive** wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and for all **social and economic groups** people. And we will endeavor to reach the furthest behind first.

Improving Means of Implementation

Para 38 - We recognize that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development. The new Agenda deals with the means required for implementation of the Goals and targets. We recognize that these will involve **preventing illicit financial flows and tax evasions, enabling domestic resource mobilization, inclusive global tax cooperation**, the mobilization of financial resources as well as capacity-building, the transfer of technologies as mutually agreed and a wide range of other supportive policies and measures on favourable terms, including preferential

terms for developing countries. Public finance, both domestic and international, will play a vital role in providing essential services and public goods and in catalyzing other sources of finance. We acknowledge the role of the diverse, **transparent and accountable** private sector, ranging from micro-enterprises to cooperatives to multinationals **while measuring its impact on human rights and sustainable development and the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights**, and that of civil society organizations and philanthropic organizations in the implementation of the new Agenda.

Para 43 - We are committed to an open, well-functioning, non-discriminatory, equitable and rules-based multilateral trading system for the realization of the new Agenda **with adequate safeguards ensuring protection of human rights and the environment**. We resolve to work together to enhance macro-economic and financial stability through improved policy coordination and coherence. We call on all WTO members to conclude promptly the Doha Development Round of trade negotiations. We attach great importance to providing trade-related capacity-building for African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing states and middle-income countries, including for the promotion of regional economic integration and interconnectivity.

Para. 44 - We recognize the role of the family, **in all its forms**, as a contributor to sustainable development; one measure of success of the Agenda will be its ability to strengthen and protect all families **including the human rights of all children, women and men**.

Accountable, transparent and inclusive follow-up and review:

Para 47 - We emphasise the critical importance of engaging all relevant stakeholders in the implementation and follow-up and review of the Agenda. In particular, we acknowledge the essential role of national parliaments in sustainable development through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of our commitments. Governments and public institutions will also work closely on implementation with regional and local authorities, sub-regional institutions, international institutions, **business, civil society**, academia, philanthropic organizations, volunteer groups and others in accordance with national laws and regulations and in conformity with international obligations.

Para.49 – Our Governments have the primary responsibility for follow-up and review, at the national, regional and global levels, in relation to the progress made in implementing the Goals and targets over the coming fifteen years. We will provide for systematic, **participatory, inclusive and transparent** follow-up and review at the various levels of accountability, **with meaningful participation of civil society and other stakeholders**, including as set out in this Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The High Level Political Forum will be responsible for the global follow-up and review processes.

Para.50 – Indicators are being developed to assist this work. Quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data **across all dimensions of sustainable development** will be needed to help with the measurement of progress and to ensure that no one is left behind. Such data is key to decision-making. Data and information from existing reporting mechanisms should be used where possible **as should data from non-official sources such as civil society to help fill gaps in official reporting**. [...] **Private sector should provide transparent data on their activities**.

We call for the development of transparent measures of progress on sustainable development that go beyond per capita income building on existing initiatives. These should recognize poverty in all

its forms and dimensions, equality, well-being and the real costs of environmental degradation and loss of natural resources

Para. 74 - We ~~encourage~~ **call upon** all member states to develop ~~as soon as practicable~~ ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of this Agenda **in 2016, including through setting quantified baselines and benchmarks for the targets. National and local responses should be developed through a transparent and participatory process.** These can support the transition to the SDGs and build on existing planning instruments, such as national development