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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

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Dear colleagues,

As you may be aware, the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals successfully completed its work on 19 July 2014 and its report is now to be transmitted to the General Assembly for appropriate action, as requested by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio. The Open Working Group report will serve as a key contribution to the intergovernmental process which now follows.

The Co-Chairs and members of the Open Working Group have, on previous occasions, expressed their appreciation for the rich array of contributions they received and benefitted from during the course of their work, from a wide variety of stakeholders. The Secretary-General is particularly proud of the support the United Nations System provided to the Group, through the Secretariat and the Technical Support Team.

The Secretary-General has asked me to convey to you also his own appreciation for your constructive engagement with the efforts of the Open Working Group over the last year and a half. Major Groups and other Stakeholders significantly contributed to this comprehensive and transformative proposal on goals and targets for the new development agenda. As the post-2015 debate moves forward, their continued involvement and voice will help Member States cement the necessary leadership and commitment to advance an agenda for people and planet.

As requested at the Special Event of the President of the General Assembly in September 2013, the Secretary-General will soon start preparations for a synthesis report. The report will build on the pivotal outcome of both the Open Working Group and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, as well as all other inputs available later in the year, as a contribution to the intergovernmental process, and with a view to ensuring that the level of ambition of this transformative agenda is delivered on the ground.

Building on the recommendation from the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda for strengthened accountability arrangements and a compelling call for a data revolution, the Secretary-General is also advancing consideration on these fronts through accountability consultations led by the Regional Economic Commissions and the imminent launch of an Independent Advisory Group on Data Revolution for Development.

The Secretary-General continues to rely on your active engagement as the international community endeavours to advance sustainable development and create a just world where all people live with dignity.

Yours sincerely,

Amina J. Mohammed

Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning