

## **Request for formal mechanisms for the participation of Major Groups and other Stakeholders in the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG indicators**

To: H.E. Ambassador Macharia Kamau and  
H.E. Ambassador David Donoghue,

Your Excellencies,

The Major Groups and other Stakeholders would like to formally commend you for the outstanding way in which you are conducting the Post-2015 Development Agenda Intergovernmental Negotiations. Further, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your support during the IGN and your tireless championing of Major Groups and other Stakeholders engagement on several fronts.

Thank you for instituting the new format for the Interactive Dialogue between Member States and Major Groups and other Stakeholders. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to express our views on the agenda. Additionally, you have been most respectful in listening carefully to our statements. We also commend your efforts to encourage Member States to participate in these sessions. It is especially meaningful that you have implemented this level of exchange during one of the most significant periods in UN history, namely the drafting of the Post-2015 Development Agenda that will guide our mission for the next 15 years.

Reflective of this, following the decisions made at the 46th Session of the Statistical Commission, the interactive dialogue revealed that Major Groups and other Stakeholders are in a strong position to contribute valuable and extensive expertise to the process of identifying indicators for the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the SDGs.

You may remember our numerous requests that indicators be selected in a fully open, transparent and participatory process – inclusive of experts from Major Groups and other Stakeholders. Several statements requested that representatives be invited to participate in the proposed Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG indicators (IAEG-SDG) by “having a seat at the table.”

The offer by H.E. Ambassador Kamau at the interactive dialogue on 25 March to recommend our participation on our behalf to the Statistical Commission is highly appreciated. It is a testament to the spirit of collaboration between Member States and civil society that has characterized these negotiations. Allow us please to include the following specific requests for your consideration and that of the Statistical Commission:

1. **Membership:** We recommend that the IAEG-SDG should include seats for representatives of Major Groups and other Stakeholders. These representatives will ensure the coordination and facilitation of expert input by civil society, including the selection of individual experts from Major Groups and other Stakeholders as needed and on the basis of pertinence and thematic relevance. We would recommend that the Statistical Commission encourage participating national statistical offices to form similar structures and/or opportunities for civil society and other expert engagement at the national level.

2. **Consultation, contribution and participation:** We would like to see the Statistical Commission and the IAEG-SDG adopt a structure whereby Major Groups and other Stakeholders are involved throughout the decision-making process.

3. **Transparency and access to information:** The IAEG-SDG secretariat shall provide membership information, advance notification of meetings and process modalities, as well as ensure access to all materials, including background documents and proposed drafts.

4. **Participation in ad hoc task forces:** To the extent that the IAEG-SDG may choose to establish ad hoc sub-working groups to address particular sets of indicators, Major Groups and other Stakeholders will have a similar opportunity to engage and contribute as outlined in items 1-3 above for the broader IAEG-SDG activities.

We thank you in advance for the kind offer to advocate on our behalf, and in general for all your outstanding work as co-facilitators of the IGN process.

Sincerely yours,

Sign-on by Major Groups and other Stakeholder constituents that are active in the post-2015 process