

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ETHIOPIA, Ms. FORTUNA DIBACO, AT THE 11TH SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP ON SDGs, May 6, 2014

CLUSTER 2: - Education - - Health and population dynamics

Mr. Co-Chair,

The MDGs have shown us how the world can come together around shared aims. Looking beyond the MDGs, a post-2015 agenda should reinforce what we have achieved in these shared aims. Therefore, it is Ethiopia's strong view that the SDGs must continue with the two goals of MDGs namely education, and health to be formulated as standalone separate goals. With regard to population dynamics, it is obvious that it has important implications to the economy, social and environment dimensions of sustainable development. As a crosscutting issue, It should be addressed in health, poverty related goals and mainstreamed in other appropriate goals.

Mr. Co-Chair,

With regard to education, as a key determinant for sustainable we propose a Goal reading as: Achieve universal access to affordable and quality education at all levels. Generally speaking, we support **a, b, e, f and g** of the targets on the revised document with the following addition and amendments.

- 1) Eliminate gender disparities in education and training
- 2) Ensure effective learning outcomes at all levels and imparting knowledge and skills that match the demands of the labor market, including through technical and vocational trainings as well as ICT skills;

3) Provide enhanced financial and technical support and capacity building; including improving higher educational and technical and vocational education and training facilities and equipment;

Mr. Co-Chair,

With regards to the health promotion and population dynamics we propose a goal read as: Ensure quality, adequate, affordable, accessible and comprehensive health services for all.

, In this regards, we support from the targets reflected on the document target **a, b, c, d, e** and f in addition to that we would like to suggest the following:-

1) Increase by 50% the ratio of health professionals to the population;