

**11th Session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals**  
"Health and Population Dynamics" and "Education and Life-long Learning"

**Statement by Brazil and Nicaragua**

**5/6/2014**

Mr. Co-chair,

Brazil and Nicaragua support the statement of Bolivia on behalf of G77 and China.

Regarding focus area 3, entitled "Health and Population Dynamics", Brazil and Nicaragua acknowledge that items a) and b) build on MDGs 4, 5 and 6. We welcome, in particular, the inclusion of reference to tuberculosis and tropical diseases, which mostly affect developing countries.

In regard to item f), in order to align the target with the Cairo Program of Action, we propose the following language:

"Ensure by 2030 universal access to comprehensive quality sexual and reproductive health for all and the enjoyment of reproductive rights, in accordance with national law, including by the access to modern methods of contraception".

We also propose the addition of one goal on increasing life expectancy, which would read: "By 2030 increase healthy life expectancy for all by x%, including vulnerable groups."

Furthermore, we believe the issue of road safety should be moved back to the focus area on health, instead of sustainable cities. Not only the approach from the prism of health is more adequate to the issue, but it is also important to bear in mind that road safety should not be limited to urban areas.

Regarding item h", we believe that the issue of drugs consumption is essentially a health problem and secondarily a criminal issue. However, the current formulation is unrealistic and does not reflect the international consensus on the matter of drugs consumption. Any goal on drugs consumption should be based on sound scientific data, focusing on its underlying causes and providing multi-sectoral approaches to the treatment, including through education, human rights, health treatment, and ensuring citizenship.

In order to rephrase the target accordingly, it would read: "Ensure by 2030 universal multi-sectoral treatment for people using narcotic drugs and abusing substances, be them licit and illicit."

In regard to means of implementation, we have the following proposals:

- Ensure by 2020 affordable access to basic medicines in developing countries, including through the use of TRIPS flexibilities to obtain, use and produce affordable generic medicines;
- By 2020 increase support for research and development of vaccines and medicines for the common diseases of developing countries;
- Expand by 2020 effective collaboration and cooperation at the national and international levels to strengthen national health systems through increased health financing;
- Doubling by 2030 the recruitment, development and training and retention of health workforce in developing countries;
- Improve by 2030 health infrastructure in developing countries, in particular in LDCs.

Mr. Co-chair,

With regard to focus area 4, entitled "Education and Life-long Learning", Brazil and Nicaragua would like to underscore the need for greater convergence with the global agenda for education, in order to ensure complementarity, synergy and coordination of efforts at the international level.

In this regard, we would like to stress the need for reference to the concept of "inclusive education", which focus on the needs of poor and most vulnerable groups such as indigenous, ethnics and linguistic minorities, afro-descendents, women, children, people with disabilities, older people, young and migrants. The concept of inclusive education should be reflected not only in the title, but also in items a) and c).

Furthermore, we would suggest the title to make reference to "life-long learning opportunities for all".

In line with the concept of "inclusive education", the scope of item b) should be widened through the reference to all vulnerable groups.

In item g), there is need to ensure that schools are also inclusive and respectful for both students and teachers. We suggest it to reads as follow: "by 2030 all schools to provide safe, healthy, respectful and inclusive learning environments for all students and teachers."

Furthermore, in order to have a more comprehensive approach toward education, we need to provide targets to teachers and education professionals. In this regards, we suggest the addition of the following target: "By 2030 promote training and support for teachers and education professionals."

In order to help bridging the gap between education and labor markets, we would propose to include in the end of item b) the following expression: "aligned with labor market needs by 2030".

In means of implementation, we would suggest the following:

- By 2020 expand by x% globally the number of scholarships for students from developing countries in particular LDCs to enroll in higher education programmes in developed countries and other developing countries, with focus on science, engineering and management.

- Improve education infrastructure in developing countries, in particular in LDCs, by 2030.

I thank you, Mr. Co-chair.