

Interactive exchange of views on conceptualizing the sustainable development goals and the sustainable development goal process

17-19 April, 2013, Conference Room 4 NLB

Oral intervention by the subcommittee for the Eradication of Poverty and the Mining Working Group

The Subcommittee for Poverty Eradication and Mining Working Group are comprised of a number of NGOs, representing constituencies spread across the world, engaging with the people living in poverty and those negatively impacted and impoverished by current natural resource extraction practices.

We welcome the Co-Chair's opening remarks when he stated that (open quote) *'the so called Bottom Billion must be front and centre of our discussions on the SDGs. We need to consider how our new development goals can be formulated so that they support achievement of our overarching aim which is eradication of extreme poverty and empowering the weakest and the most vulnerable'* (end quote).

We would like to express that the following must be considered as non-negotiable in the formulation of sustainable development goals...

Principles and values underpinning SDGs: Holistic in approach incorporating the social, economic, environmental and cultural dimensions; People-centered; Human rights based; Ethical and inclusive; Addresses systemically and structurally the root causes of poverty; Builds peace and security; Ensures equality and in particular gender equality; Operates within planetary boundaries; Promotes good governance based on rule of law including compliance with international laws¹ including a legally binding framework for corporate social and environment responsibilities; Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights² Rio Principles and the 10-year framework for sustainable consumption and production patterns³.

The SDGs must include

- The multi-dimensional aspect of poverty and address multiple deprivations in cross cutting ways
- Universal ratification and implementation of the Human Rights Treaties
- The implementation of the ILO Recommendation 202 on Social Protection Floor
- Full employment and decent work for all based on ILO Decent Work Agenda
- Rural development and sustainable agriculture with special consideration of the smallholder farmers as essential for food security
- Results of evidence based and multidimensional studies of the cumulative impact of concession for oil, gas and mining on the life, livelihood and health of local communities and the health of vital eco-systems to sustain life globally.

¹ Realizing the Future We Want –para 93

² Guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Poverty/A-HRC-21-39_en.pdf

³ The Future We Want -para 226

- Specific focus on natural resource extraction in session on oceans, forests, biodiversity and in thematic considerations of water, food, energy, land, women's empowerment and ecological sustainability.
- A new global financial and economic governance system that is inclusive
- Aid for development effectiveness and additional Resources for Least Developed Countries (FTT)
- Qualitative and quantitative measures of sustainable development must include social, cultural, environmental, economic and political aspect of wellbeing
- Establishment of an accountability mechanism supported by a Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on development modeled on the UPR mechanism of the Human Rights Council

Thank you!

Friday April 19, 2013

5th meeting, Second Session of the General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

<http://webtv.un.org/watch/5th-meeting-second-session-of-the-general-assembly-open-working-group-on-sustainable-development-goals/2312785092001/>