

Statement on the Synthesis Report of the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Agenda "The Road to Dignity by 2030: Ending Poverty, Transforming All Lives and Protecting the Planet"

Berlin, Bonn, January, 14th 2015

In the light of the Synthesis Report of the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Agenda from December 2014 and the upcoming Stocktaking event next week in New York **Germanwatch puts forward the following recommendations:**

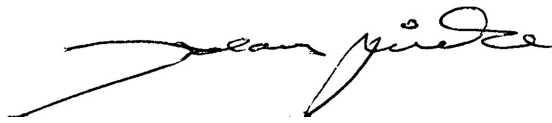
The 17 SDGs and the integrated approach to targets must stay at the core of the sustainable development agenda. We fully support the proposed cross-cutting principles which in our understanding should guide action in all SDG areas. The cross-cutting principle is to be applied to Climate Action specifically.

The six essential elements are used as a mean to structure and communicate the 17 SDGs and underlying targets. We are concerned that some of the SDGs are not explicitly and sufficiently reflected in the six essentials. Therefore we propose the following **amendments to these essential elements:**

- We welcome the element "Planet" and its implied respect to planetary boundaries, but its scope is not clear enough
 - if **climate change** is assumed to be part of this element than it must **appear explicitly in its formulation**, since climate change cannot be subsumed under ecosystems
 - Therefore, we **suggest to reformulate** "Planet: **to tackle climate change** and to protect our ecosystems for all societies and future generations"
- We recommend to add a **seventh essential element**
 - It should be named "**Environment and Resources: to promote sustainable use of resources and to ensure sustainable consumption and production**"
 - It should cover sustainable consumption and production, sustainable resource management, foster a recycling economy and as a result protect biodiversity, water and land resources
- One additional essential element should comprise the **transformational necessities to all countries**
 - The **essential element eight** could be named "**Transformation: to sustainable development and to overcome unsustainable patterns.**"
 - It covers actions for sustainable development in the areas of energy, mobility, land use, raw materials, production and consumption in all, but mainly in developed countries.
- We recommend to amend the element "Dignity: to end poverty and fight inequality and **to ensure good governance and human rights**"
- We recommend to amend the element "Partnership: to catalyse global solidarity **and support** for sustainable development"

Overall comments

We welcome the strong appeal for a universal and transformational post-2015 development agenda with the industrial states taking over a strong and specific responsibility. We share that the world is at a historic crossroads and must use 2015 for really changing course. This includes an ambitious UNFCCC deal. We also believe that the world has the know-how and means to address global social, environmental and economic challenges. We demand for urgent leadership and joint action, - Germany and its G7-presidency can more to support the post 2015- and the Paris-processes. We welcome the expressed endorsement of the outcome of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG on SDGs) and we call to maintain the substance of the so far agreed negotiations.



Klaus Milke,

Chairman of Germanwatch e.V.

“Observing, Analysing, Acting” under this motto Germanwatch has been engaged since 1991 for global equity and the preservation of livelihoods. The politics and economics of the North, with their global consequences, stand at the centre of our work.

The situation of marginalised people in the South forms the starting point for our engagement for sustainable development. The political and globalised market structures of the North, as well as their resource-intensive mode of production, which is now being increasingly imitated, are influencing human lives worldwide.

We advocate for a political, economic and social framework which can ensure a future for the people of the South, who are being pushed to the margins of society through unbridled globalisation and whose very existence is threatened by the loss of their ecological and economic foundations of their livelihoods.

Germanwatch e.V.