

## Comments by Sascha Gabizon on Meryem's presentation on SDGs

Welcome very much analysis and proposal by Maryam Nyamir Fuller.

Just back from SDG negotiations in NY.

SDGs are outcome of Rio+20 , aim is to do better than MDGs.

MDGs, not sufficiently human rights based, --- e.g, only 50% of poor to be addressed, —not the other 50%, only one out of 8 goals on environment,

MDGs in many areas failed, because did not address root causes of poverty, did not address inequalities based on discrimination in law – minorities, gender,

So SDG zero draft with its 17 goals and 100 plus targets is a great leap forward,

Now we know that many donors, and some parts of UN, who were leading in MDGs were not happy – but the GA resolution agreed that SDG and Post2015 process will official merge

Different interpretations what that means, just one of several report for SG Ban Ki Moon to take into account?

Or is it THE main report to take into account by the SG? --- Yes, because this was the only one which has been negotiated in an open, transparent intergov process. As MG&S we have been strongly involved in SDG process with daily 1 hour sessions with the co-chairs and member states, many of our suggestions being taken on board in the zero draft.

The SdG zero draft is 'quite OK', -- agree with Meryem on her concerns presented – e.g. that it is still weak on 1) chemicals & waste 2) dry lands 3) environmental governance

Pressure from some Northern governments for this global agenda to be short and “tweetable” --- easy to understand for average person on the street... Canada insists not more than 10 goals I have nothing against social media. But is that a good idea, to put all complexity of global challenges in a short simplistic non-interlinked format? This agenda is for Ministers to implement and we also have more than 10 ministers in all countries.

Currently under pressure to bring down the number of goals, a number of very important goals might be lost, for example:

1) Inequalities goal – not sure it will remain

2) Rule of law / peace goal --- not sure to remain

3) Decent Work has already been put in a combined goal, and below economic growth ! -- should be opposite, with Decent Work as the focus and inclusive economic development as a path towards that aim

4) Climate goal --- is not sure to remain

How can we have a global agenda without climate change and ending inequalities as a priority?

My personal conclusion from last week negotiations is that 10 goals does not make sense. 15 goals is better and it seems many countries agree on this, and these 15 can be clustered under the 3 areas as presented by Meryem.

Co-chairs also asked to reduce targets per goal to 4-5

Have seen many proposals to reduce to 5 targets per goal, often been very arbitrary

For example, take the Gender Equality and Women Rights and Empowerment Goal 5 which as a goal is quite sure to stay, and that is necessary, --- 120 countries discriminate against women in their laws, norms, women majority of poor, and most negatively impacted from enviro destruction, pollution, climate change ...

So it is important to have Gender/Women rights goal, -- not merged into a poverty goal

Currently goal 5 has 10+ targets – now squashing them all together into 5, will make them much less easy to communicate and to implement – as you need different strategies -- but also how are we supposed to choose between one women’s human rights – to live free of violence – and other human right – right to education, right to employment... all human rights are indivisible, and we should not be forced to choose one against the other.

Maybe therefore we should apply some criteria for selecting targets, and one of them could be that a target should help the integration of the agenda, so only targets which help integrate other targets under other goals should be prioritized?

But the biggest challenge is MOI - Means of Implementation

G77 has started to address specific MOI per target, which we also did for goal 5 as women’s major group, and which makes a lot of sense, as you need different MOIs for different goals, e.g. different one’s for gender than for oceans.

Some of the Northern countries spoke up aggressively against addressing MOI per goal, and even in general, which I am afraid can be very destructive and undo the important work which the OWG has done thus far.

UNEA can be very important in sending a message to the last session of the OWG on SDGs