

**Statement of Finland: 26.6. KLO 15-18: SDGs AND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA,
INCLUDING SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
Delivered by State Secretary Katariina Poskiparta**

-Thank you, Mme. Chairman.

-Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Colleagues,

-I would start by stating my full alignment with the EU intervention on this agenda item.

-Mme. Chairman,

-Finland has emphasized the need to mainstream environmental sustainability throughout the Post-2015 Agenda. In addition, it is important to design ambitious goals in view of improving the state of the global environment and increasing natural assets for the benefit of the planet and the people.

-Universality and interlinkages between goals and targets are crucial underlying principles for an overarching and successful transformative Post-2015 Agenda.

-All development needs to be inclusive and happen within planetary boundaries. Halting environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity, shifting to sustainable consumption and production patterns and urgently addressing climate sustainability are prerequisites for a sustainable future for our planet.

-The potential that natural resources have in conflict resolution and longer term state-building is not yet fully explored and exploited. Therefore, developing good and transparent governance of natural resources is imperative in the mobilization of domestic revenues in fragile states.

-Mme. Chairman,

-The sustained provision of materials, energy, food, water and shelter are central to human wellbeing. A shift towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) will help addressing these basic needs in a sustainable manner and bring better quality of life to all. Therefore, we stress that SCP is a key element in the Post-2015 Agenda.

-SCP is a global challenge but the industrialized countries should take leadership in promoting the shift to SCP patterns, engaging in partnerships, and facilitating solutions for a transformative change.

-In Finland, we face the challenge of high material consumption. That's why nationally we need to invest in increased resource productivity and immaterial growth, but also reduce the environmental impacts of our everyday life, especially in housing, food and transport.

-Embracing SCP policies, strategies and practices also offer opportunities to developing countries to leapfrog to a more resource-efficient, profitable and low-carbon development pathways.

-We can build our global efforts on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10 YFP) on SCP, adopted at the Rio+20 Conference. This 10YFP is an existing implementation mechanism, which delivers collaborative action and capacity building at national and regional levels to scale up and replicate SCP

policies and practices across countries. To support developing countries in their efforts, Finland has already contributed financially to the 10YFP Trust Fund and encourages others to do the same.

-Mme. Chairman,

-This first UNEA comes at a critical juncture of the SDG and Post-2015 process. UNEA provides an excellent opportunity to send a strong message to the High Level Political Forum and to the Post-2015 consultative process about the crucial importance that environmental sustainability has for maintaining the carrying capacity of our planet and ensuring well-being for present and future generations.

-UNEP has the comparative advantage and mandate to be the leading authority in the environmental dimension of sustainable development globally as well as within the UN system.

-UNEP has a key role in providing strategic policy guidance to Governments. It is therefore vital that UNEP plays an important role in the Post-2015 Agenda. There are many ways in which UNEP can contribute in this work, including implementing, supporting, monitoring and reporting in the Post-2015 context.

-Furthermore, UNEP should continue to facilitate mutual collaboration and implementation of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). This is important also from the Post-2015 perspective, as the objectives of major MEAs address sustainable development at large. We should do our utmost not to backtrack from existing environmental commitments.

-Thank you, Mme. Chairman.