

Statement by Ambassador Asoke Mukerji, Permanent Representative at the Plenary meeting of the General Assembly to transmit the outcome document "Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" to the 70th General Assembly for Adoption at the UN Summit on September 01, 2015.

Mr. President,

We thank you for convening today's meeting. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by the Permanent Representative of South Africa on behalf of the G77 and China, and the Permanent Representative of Indonesia on behalf of the Like Minded Group, including India. The outcome document that we transmit to the 70th session for adoption by leaders at the summit later this month represents the culmination of intense work undertaken by the entire membership of the General Assembly over a period of nearly two years. The adoption of this document is tribute to the leadership that you have provided and also the most able facilitation conducted by Ambassador Macharia Kamau of Kenya and Ambassador David Donoghue of Ireland. We are, broadly speaking, satisfied with the document.

2. For India, and indeed for the entire developing world, the vision for the future cannot but have the eradication of poverty as its overarching goal. We are gratified that this is in fact the case and that there has been no compromise on the ambition of the agenda either. Its fulfillment, in our view, can allow poverty to be eradicated within the span of a single generation.

3. We are also satisfied with the holistic approach and balanced emphasis on all the dimensions of sustainable development. Our own experience has shown that inclusive economic growth, industrialization, infrastructure development, skill development and innovation are all essential for the eradication of hunger and poverty. We are pleased with the emphasis this has received in the new agenda.

4. It is also a matter of satisfaction that the agenda, while being universal, does not confuse universalism with uniformity. It was, therefore, important that "common but differentiated responsibilities" be recognized as the guiding principle of international cooperation of sustainable development.

5. I would like to draw particular attention to a matter that has been a prime pre-occupation for my delegation. We are very pleased that the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, an important gain from the Third Financing for Development Conference, finds mention in the document. Progress on this matter has been much awaited since efforts were initiated at the Rio+20 Conference in 2012. The Technology Facilitation, based as it will be in the United Nations, holds the potential of allowing the international community to leverage the incredible and transformative power of technology for the task of poverty eradication.

6. The Sustainable Development Goals that are at the heart of the 2030 agenda relate closely to India's own vision of development. They speak of the priorities that our Prime Minister has outlined in our domestic context as well.

7. In conclusion, Mr. President, we thank you for the direction that you have provided to the 69th session of the General Assembly. By taking to their logical conclusion the other remaining priorities of your Presidency, you will be bequeathing to the future a legacy as rich, as substantive and as meaningful, if not more, as that of any of your predecessors.