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Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Sustainable development

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Letter dated 16 October 2014 from the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, Liechtenstein, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We refer to our joint letter dated 9 September 2014 ([A/69/380](#)) and are pleased to provide you, on behalf of the following seven States, namely, Egypt, Liechtenstein, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland, with details on how we envision the main features of the review mechanism for the post-2015 development agenda.

In General Assembly resolution 67/290, Member States decided that the high-level political forum on sustainable development, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, shall conduct regular reviews, starting in 2016, on the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives, including those related to the means of implementation, within the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

In our view, the main aim of the high-level political forum review mechanism is to advance the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development and to foster coherence and progress in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.

Our group has identified the following key characteristics for an efficient review mechanism:

- (a) The review will be voluntary. Therefore, the review mechanism should be owned and embraced by developed and developing countries;
- (b) It will be State-led, involving ministerial and other relevant high-level participants;



(c) It should focus on the assessment of progress, achievements and challenges faced by developed and developing countries;

(d) It should also include the contribution of the relevant United Nations entities, including at the regional level;

(e) The review should be conducted in a constructive spirit. This means that it should be based on long-term orientation and incentives such as access to best practices, policy advice and sharing of experiences and that it should provide a follow-up mechanism at the national level. It should also provide a platform for partnerships by identifying the necessary means of implementation, taking into account capacity-building and financing needs, and by facilitating the sharing of best practices and technology and other support to be provided by a wide range of actors in order to identify possible solutions and to foster positive mutual learning and cooperation in order to improve the performances of Governments on sustainable development;

(f) Its approach should be differentiated, which means that it will focus on universal goals, in particular the sustainable development goals, applicable to all countries, while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities;

(g) It should ensure coherence among the national, regional and global levels;

(h) The basis for the review is robust data drawn from national progress reports. Data and information from existing reporting mechanisms should be used where possible, bearing in mind the need for capacity-building in regard to improved data collection;

(i) It should take into account lessons learned from existing intergovernmental review mechanisms;

(j) The review should be inclusive and participatory by including adequate arrangements for transparency and broad participation, including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders.

Finally, lessons learned from the reviews taking place in the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council should feed into the high-level review and stocktaking at the global level taking place in the context of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly every four years.

We look forward to a reference to the above-listed main features of the review mechanism for the post-2015 development agenda in your synthesis report and to continuing this important dialogue.

The above-mentioned seven States would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly under agenda items 13, 19 and 115.

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