Reporting on the 12th OWG session and the further process

* During its 12th session from 16 to 20 June (and its informal session from 9 to 11 June) the OWG discussed a zero draft containing 212 targets under 17 proposed goals and appeared to reach general agreement on 14 out of the 17 Goals. There are still very substantial differences on the proposed goals for climate change, peaceful societies/governance and means of implementation;

* UNSD was present during the OWG meetings and was able to answer multiple technical questions from OWG delegates - also international agencies were consulted on specific technical questions;

* On 30 June an updated/tweaked zero draft will be presented by the OWG Co-Chairs; it is expected that there will be less targets and a more refined and balanced document, also taken into account the prioritisation expressed by delegations; whatever will be removed will be retained in an annex with appropriate explanation;

* The zero draft contains 2 general targets on statistical capacity building under paragraphs 17.30 and 17.36 and it will be important that those will be retained;

* From 9 to 11 July there will be an informal session and delegates from capitals are urged to attend; from 14 to 18 July there will be the final OWG meeting;

* The OWG Co-Chairs expressed their firm intention to conclude the work of the OWG on 18 July by agreeing on what has been discussed/agreed so far.