Mr. Co-Chair:

We are encouraged to see that some of our proposals on the tier classification on indicators such as 16.2.1 and on the refinement indicators such as 3.8.2 have been taken onboard. On the latter we strongly urge the IAEG to move the new indicator from Tier III to Tier II given that it has robust methodology and the data can be collected from household surveys including those necessary for the poverty indicators.

A couple of points we want to raise in this closing statement is regarding custodian agencies:

1. First point: We wish to call on custodian agencies to be inclusive and participatory on their role as custodians of global indicators. This means working together with other stakeholders and drawing upon a wide range of data sources outside of official statistical systems. We ask this expert group to encourage custodian agencies along these lines and report on this.

2. Second point: We once again wish to call upon this expert group to thoroughly review agencies who propose to be custodians and/or co-custodian. It is important to review their capacities as well as their track record. Whilst we believe all indicators should have a UN agency as custodians rather than other agencies or private sector, nevertheless, we still urge you to review the number of indicators agencies have sign up to be custodian or co-custodian and ensure such commitment goes in line with their capacity.

In this context, we wish to affirm our intention as civil society to contribute to data collection as well as develop and report on alternative, civil society indicators that provide a more comprehensive analysis of the progress toward Agenda2030 but are also able to draw attention to the barriers preventing sustainable development.

In conclusion, we wish to reiterate that in order for civil society to engage effectively, we need to understand the IAEG’s work plan going forward. We hope this information will be provided in a timely and transparent manner so that we may continue to engage constructively and support the development of a global indicators framework that delivers on the ambition of Agenda 2030.

Thank You.