

4th IAEG meeting in Geneva  
17 - 18 November 2016

Oral statement Thursday Morning (Tier III, environment)  
By Eleanor Mitch, Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement, on behalf of the  
Civil Society Organisations present

Dear Madams/Sirs

Around 60% of environment relevant indicators are in Tier III. We call upon the IAEG and the agencies to prioritize the work on these indicators, to ensure that reporting on SDG implementation fully reflects the environmental dimension of Agenda 2030, with well-developed and time bound methodologies.

On Biodiversity, we are concerned about the trends of moving down of a number of indicators from Tier I to Tier II as we would like the trends to go in the other direction and moving Tier III indicators up. We encourage the custodian agencies and IAEG to build on the work on Aichi Targets Indicators and the Biodiversity Indicators Partnerships and to use existing data including GEO-BON Data, the Living Planet Index and the Red List Index to quickly develop biodiversity indicators.

Goal 14 on Oceans is also an extreme example: 7 out of 9 indicators are under Tier III. This represents a significant risk for the oceans goal to be unreported. We call upon the timely development of these indicators in light of the UN Conference to support the implementation of SDG14 and the in-depth review of SDG14 during the HLPF2017.

6 out of 7 of the climate indicators and the majority of the sustainable production and consumption indicators are listed under Tier III. We call for the timely development of these indicators to be moved to Tier II or I classification.

As regards Target 15.2, on Sustainable Forest Management: We encourage you to adopt the set of sub-indicators proposed by FAO and move the set to Tier I or II now. Doing so, reporting can start now, on highly relevant issues. We emphasize the importance of including forest certification, as the most specific and visible evidence of sustainable forest management, which also concretely contributes to another SDG, on sustainable consumption and production patterns. We also suggest to look at the overlap between two of the sub-indicators under 15.2 with those agreed under 15.1.

And finally, we encourage the inclusion of disaster and environmentally affected displaced persons, internally and internationally under indicator 4.5.1 to reflect the full range of migration and climate change effects. More than 20M people per year are displaced due to environmental disasters. Also the Inclusion of the mention "environmental education" under 4.7.1 so that the effects and concerns of human rights to the environment be reflected.