

4th IAEG meeting in Geneva
17 - 18 November 2016

Oral statement Thursday 17, 2016 morning
Delivered by Arelys Bellorini, World Vision on behalf of Civil Society organisations present

Mr. Co-Chair:

We welcome the opportunity to deliver statements during this session reflecting the concerns of several constituencies from Civil Society. We must, however, refer to the 'closed door modalities' the Group has chosen over its last two meetings.

The 2030 Agenda and its SDGs were discussed and negotiated in open settings. From the Open Working Group to the post-2015 intergovernmental negotiations, Civil Society and all stakeholders were present in the room. Once adopted, all inter-governmental processes of the 2030 Agenda remain open, except for the IAEG.

This is one of the transparency issues this Group has faced since its inception developing the global indicators framework. We request this working modality to be fully open and transparent.

We remain concerned that the ambition of the Goals risks being diluted by the indicators proposed. The tiering system, refinement and future revisions need to ensure this ambition is retained and indicators reflect their targets

One year since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. The global indicators framework is not yet finalized. Moreover, the classification of indicators to Tier III raises even more concern: we do not want this to be an excuse to not report. It will take time for capacities to be built and for data around the most potentially transformative indicators, which are currently Tier III to be gathered.

It is our view that delayed development of Tier III will create unbalanced reporting of SDGs progress and significant underreporting of key dimensions of Agenda 2030 such as gender, environment, violence, particularly against children and overall the most vulnerable who have historically been left behind such as children, young people, women, persons with disabilities, older persons and others.

Prior to this morning's presentation on the tiering system, we were going to encourage this Group to take a deeper look at those indicators in Tier III where established, standardized, tested and validated methodology and tools already exist. One of my examples was going to be on 16.2.1 but I see that it has gone back to Tier II which we are pleased to hear. Nevertheless, as it was also stated that this indicator has "low data availability" we wish to take this opportunity to strongly urge the expert group to be thorough and inclusive of a wide range of data sources outside of official statistical systems when undertaking this work. While the main sources of data for SDG monitoring should come from NSOs and national governments, other data sources and methodologies from a wide range of stakeholders must be drawn upon, in order for this work to fully take into account the full data ecosystem for data collection around all SDG issues. Hybrid partnerships will be critical if we are to fill the looming capacity gaps we face.

Thank You.