

Oral statement Thursday 17, 2016 morning

Delivered by Chantal Umuhoza from Pro-Femmes on behalf of Civil Society organisations present

Good morning. Thank you the opportunity to deliver a statement on behalf of civil society present here today.

We recognize that crucial indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as well as for inclusion of persons with disabilities are currently found under Tier III, even for those where methodologies exist. We are aspiring to see that the IAEG and custodian agencies develop them more deeply and comprehensively going further.

The complexity of Tier III indicators are aimed to measure long neglected needs not addressed in previous development policies and framework.

An example are the indicators related to adolescent pregnancy - we are concerned they have moved from Tier I to Tier II. Where there's need for capacity building at national levels e.g. of national statistical organizations, such needs need to be specified, resources and a timeline set to ensure the required data can be collected.

Irrespective of the tier placement, all indicators need to be measured as soon as possible and no later than 2018 to ensure that data is available for the 2019 Review of the Agenda. In states where data collection mechanisms and methodology exists on certain issues e.g. FGM and child marriage indicators, such approaches should be replicated and considered elsewhere and not discouraged.

Many indicators continue to rely on age-limited data that will not capture progress for significant parts of the population, for example, those over age 49 and in some cases adolescents 10 – 14. Work on tier 2 and 3 indicators must address this and due consideration given to those indicators considered under tier 1 that will not capture progress for the older or very young population. The tier system and shifting of indicators should only aim to improve existing data, and filling critical data gaps.

The process of refinement of Tier III indicators must be done in a manner that is transparent and includes meaningful CSO participation. These indicators are measuring the factors that are most likely to lead to transformative change and the realization of Gender equality, Human Rights and Justice for all, which is the intention of SDGs i.e leaving no one behind.

Thank you.