

**Statement by Business**

**Afternoon, March 30, 2017**

**IAEG on SDG INDICATORS**

Mr. Co-Chair,

It is a great pleasure to be at a meeting that is moving so efficiently.

When speaking of efficiency, it has relevance to interlinkages as we address the vast agenda within the SDGs. With this in mind, Business supports the reuse of existing agreed indicators in unique combinations to address some of the gaps in the Tier 3 indicators. My name is Robynne Anderson, Director General of the International Agri-Food Network. To draw on a specific example from our sector, as the work is underway to gather data on Goal 2.4, we believe four key indicators on productivity from indicator 2.3; adaptation from 1.2.1 on poverty; ecosystems conservation on 15.1.2; and soil quality on 15.3.1 can capture the four elements mentioned in target 2.4. This is one example of where we can create efficiencies to further the efficiency and quality of data collection.

Another critical area of inter-linkages relates to climate change: meeting the objectives of the Paris Agreement will have implications far beyond SDG 13 – in fact there exist potential synergies and trade offs between Paris and a wide range of SDGs, including those focusing on poverty eradication, food security, accessible and sustainable energy, clean water and growing economies to mention a few.

One of the reasons why business feels this is so important is due to the essential role of disaggregation. Actions on the SDG must have positive, measurable impact on women and men; young and old; rural and urban. A reason why we encourage reusing existing indicators to illuminate some of the Tier 3 indicators is that **we need disaggregated data**. The development of the Tier 3 indicators must move quickly, and using data looking at the impacts on the various communities is important. Rural areas are often particularly challenging for data collection for instance so we want to ensure that there is quality material.

Business fully supports that there should be more capacity building for SDG reporting. And where choices do need to be made to make sure we have timely data on the SDGs, business believes well gathered, disaggregated data should be

the first priority of the National Statistical Offices, and assisted by the UN Agencies wherever possible as well as civil society and business.

Finally, on the most recent point, we agree that “enterprise” is more appropriate than “industry” which is too narrow. The International Chamber of Commerce, a body with UN observer status, may be a useful point of reference as it represents businesses big and small.

Thank you.