

## Private Sector Statement 1 – Thursday am

I am Barrie Bain, Advisor on UN Affairs for the International Fertilizer Association, a member of the Global Business Alliance for 2030. We welcome this opportunity to inform the IAEG-SDGs on the role of the business sector in contributing to designing the metrics that will give the world Indicators that will truly reflect the ambitions of the SDGs.

We thank the co-facilitators and secretariat for their commitment to involve stakeholders in the process. It is important that the Indicators for the SDGs are developed in an inclusive and constructive manner.

Business is committed to the implementation of the SDGs. Many businesses are already embedding the SDGs into their operations. This goes well beyond Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainability reports. It is about businesses fundamentally changing the way they operate.

It is important for business that the indicators that are developed to measure the SDGs truly reflect the goals and targets. Indicators need to measure what they are supposed to measure. For the most part, this is the case, but we have concerns that for some of the Tier III indicators, the difficulty of obtaining data could result in proxy indicators being used that do not accurately reflect targets and can have unintended consequences.

Business is about data. Companies cannot operate successfully without collecting and analysing data about their operations. Businesses have developed sophisticated data systems and represent a massive potential resource for the Indicators. We welcome the inclusion in the UNSC draft resolution that non-government data can be used in the SDG Indicators. The business community stands ready to help in whatever way it can to ensure that the Indicators, the final piece in the puzzle, make the SDGs achievable.