Stakeholder Statement

on
<u>Agenda item 10. Data disaggregation</u>
Sixth Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators
14 November, 2017
Manama, Bahrain

Thank you, chairs for giving us the opportunity to present on behalf of stakeholders on disaggregation of data. Disaggregation is more than just a technical issue. It goes to the heart of the human rights approach to achieve universality and to leave no one behind.

Disaggregated Data and Inequalities: The structural and systemic barriers and inequalities must be addressed in terms of collection of disaggregated data, which can contribute and facilitate policy formulation and implementation and budget allocation, especially gender budgets. Disaggregated information on dimensions such as income, poverty, consumption, and expenditures all of which are measured conceptually at the household level, should actually be measured at the individual level.

Disaggregated Data and Vulnerabilities: Data disaggregation should primarily address the most marginalized communities and social groups, which includes those excluded on the basis of gender, caste, descent, disability, age and sexuality. The data collection of these should be uniform and constant rather than random and periodical. Which means yearly or bi-yearly availability of the data rather than the usual every 5 years (in some cases 7-10 years) collection of data. Furthermore, the monitoring and review of the data should focus to avoid data tampering for showcasing attractive results by the States. Also, there needs to be more work leading to general guidelines on managing

disclosure risk to unleash the full value of census, survey, and administrative data sources.

Disaggregation based on Gender: Gender disaggregated data across SDGs and indicators is central to the realization of the transformative 2030 Agenda. We need statistics that are intersectional and address multiple forms of exclusion and discrimination and tell us, for example, what happens to a woman with a disability from a minority community, or a rural or an Indigenous woman who is the sole source of support for her family.

Disaggregation based on caste and descent (and work) based discrimination has not been featured in the indicators for achieving SDG targets. With more than 260 million people worldwide facing such forms of exclusion, the indicators have failed to address the true nature of vulnerabilities and exclusion through SDGs. These communities are facing intergenerational discrimination and exclusion from socio-economic, political and legal mechanisms. They are subjected to forms of violence when they exercise their right to entitlements and equality. Women from these communities further face multiple forms of discrimination by giving them disproportionate disadvantages. The OHCHR Guidance tool for the elimination of Discrimination based on work and descent (DWD) has recommended States towards collecting the disaggregated data on DWD and with its intersectionalities with gender, disability, sexualities, age, religion, region, and the rural and urban divide.

Disaggregation by age: While disaggregation by age is included within certain targets and listed in 17.18, there are no consistent standards for age disaggregation across the life course. Therefore, in its work going forward, we urge the IAEG-SDGs to consider standards for age disaggregation and reject a blanket cohort of 50, 60 or 65+ to measure outcomes for older persons. Age

disaggregation for adults should, at a minimum, be in 5-year cohorts across the life course. This has been recognized by the UK, and consequently, they will propose the establishment of a City Group on Ageing and Age Disaggregated Data at the next session of the UN Statistical Commission. If accepted, we urge the IAEG to engage constructively with this group which can inform and complement the work stream on disaggregation.

Disaggregation by disability: We welcome the document on the overview of standards for data disaggregation issued by the IAEG-SDGs disaggregation work stream, that proposes the Washington Group Short Set of Questions as standard for monitoring the SDGs. In line with the document, we also emphasize that the International Classification of Functioning Disability and Health (ICF), as well as the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) are **only** standards for classifications and **not** operationalized ways of data disaggregation. We hope that at the next IAEG-SDGs meeting, the disaggregation work stream will make a unanimous recommendation to use the Washington Group Short Set of Questions for adults with disabilities and the UNICEF/Washington Group module on Child Functioning in the case of children with disabilities.

Policy Coherence: We stress the critical importance of disaggregation of SDG indicators, because it contributes to policy coherence. We would like to reiterate that data should be of quality, accessible, accurate, transparent, timely and reliable to measure progress and to ensure that no one is left behind as stated in A/Res/70/1.

We offer the **collaboration of stakeholders** who are ready to work with the IAEG-SDGs disaggregation work stream. We recognize the complexities and difficulties that the IAEG-SDGs encounters, but we do see this as a matter of

priority as the 2030 Agenda will not be achieved without full disaggregation of data and leaving no one behind.