The UNTT in crafting a post-2015 development agenda

AMR Side Event on Monitoring and Indicators Thursday, 4 July 2013, 1.15 – 2.45 pm

- Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen and colleagues.
- It is my great pleasure to join you here in Geneva today and to provide you with an overview of ongoing work around the post-2015 development agenda.
- This AMR's focus on science, technology and innovation is incredibly timely.
 Innovation will lie at the heart of any answer to the increasingly global challenges we face.
- Such innovation will rest on absorbing knowledge, technology and ideas from other countries and stakeholders. This is why, science, technology and innovations are necessary resources for the two very important tasks the international community is facing today.
- One is to continue accelerating progress towards the MDGs towards the 2015 deadline. With less than 1,000 days left it is time to step up efforts NOW.
- The other is to define a global development agenda for the post-2015 period with sustainable development at its centre and based on the lessons learnt from the MDGs.
- Discussions on a potential post-2015 agenda have accelerated significantly over the past year with broad participation from governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.
- At the same time, Rio+20 launched an inclusive intergovernmental process to develop
 a set of sustainable development goals, as an integral part of the post-2015
 development agenda.

- The OWG will submit its report and recommendations to the next session of the
 General Assembly. An interim report from the co-chairs will be presented this fall.
- The Secretary-General has also taken several initiatives to mobilize preparations for a post-2015 development agenda.
- As a first step, he established the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN
 Development Agenda, launched in January 2012. Chaired by my department, UN
 DESA, together with UNDP, the Task Team includes more than 60 agencies and
 international institutions.
- The UN Task Team published in June 2012 the report: *Realizing the Future we Want for All*, which includes recommendations to define a vision for the post-2015 agenda.
- In the last few months, the UN System Task Team has been working on issues related to: the global partnership for development, monitoring and indicators, and financing for sustainable development. In addition, the UNTT provides support to the intergovernmental discussion on the sustainable development goals through the Technical Support Team (TST).
- In March 2013, the working group on the global partnership for development published its report titled *A Renewed Global Partnership for Development*. The text provides thinking on the potential format and dimensions of such a partnership to support implementation of a post-2015 development agenda.
- Strengthening the global partnership for development will be critical in responding to the sustainable development challenges the world faces going forward. The level of ambition of the post-2015 agenda will largely depend on this.
- The working group on monitoring and indicators was tasked to prepare analytical inputs to support the discussions and conceptual thinking on monitoring and indicators, a very important part of any global agenda. Today, I am delighted to launch the report of this working group titled "Statistics and indicators for the post-2015 development agenda".

- The report was prepared under the leadership of DESA and UNDP and in close cooperation with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators. More than twenty UN agencies and international organizations participated in the working group.
- This work can help pave the way for a comprehensive and solid set of indicators and monitoring framework for the post-2015 development agenda.
- But let me not go into more detail on this. Robert Johnston, the lead author of the report, will provide you an overview of the main recommendations and findings of the report.
- Lastly, I would just highlight the next important step to you, the preparations for the post 2015 agenda.
- This will be the Special Event of the President of the General Assembly on September
 25. This event will aim to further accelerate progress towards the MDGs. It will also give Member States a chance to discuss next steps towards a post-2015 development agenda.
- I am confident that we can all come together around one global development agenda for the post-2015 period, with sustainable development at its centre