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Tisztelt Miniszter Úr!

Az immár több mint 130 ország több mint ezer civil szervezetét összefogó Beyond 2015 nemzetközi civil kampányt¹ itthon megtestesítő „Beyond 2015 Nemzeti Civil Egyeztető Fórum”,² azaz az aláírók nevében fordulunk Önhöz, mint külgazdasági és külügyminiszterhez. Napjaink egyik legfontosabb globális ügye a 2015 utáni nemzetközi fejlesztéspolitikai keretrendszer kialakítása - a Millenniumi Fejlesztési Célokat várhatóan felváltó Fenntartható Fejlesztési Célok, illetve az ezekkel kapcsolatos európai uniós álláspontok -, ahol a kiemelkedően magas színvonalú magyar vezetői részvétel is adott Kőrösi Csaba nagykövet úr társelnökségével az ENSZ Nyitott Munkacsoportjában.³

A mindezidáig a nemzetközi civil szakértői közösség által is elismert eredményeket biztosító, kiváló munkát végző Nyitott Munkacsoport kezdeményezéseinek lehető legnagyobb mértékben való megvalósulása közös érdekünk. A közös és általános emberi felelősségvállaláson túl a Munkacsoport sikere egyben a magyar diplomácia sikere is lenne. Ehhez azonban szükséges az EU részéről a témában a mostaninál progresszívabb hozzáállás.⁴

Kérjük a segítségét, hogy Magyarország álljon az élre e folyamatban! Ehhez nézetünk szerint felhatalmazást ad az új magyar nemzetközi fejlesztési stratégia, illetve részben a Keleti Nyitás politikájában felvállalt elköteleződés is.

A nemzetközi fejlesztési területekért felelős európai uniós miniszterek július 14-15-i olaszországi informális egyeztetése kiváló alkalom lesz arra, hogy a tagállamok elősegíthessék az Európai Bizottság legutóbbi e téren megjelent közleménye⁵ kritikusabb pontjainak feljavítását. Örömmel működnék együtt a továbbiakban is, hogy az idén decemberi európai uniós külügyminiszteri találkozón, majd a 2015-ös április/májusi külügyi tanácsülésen is fontos témaként megjelenő fenti kérdésekről információinkkal segíthessük munkáját.

Szíves figyelmébe és megfontolásra ajánljuk a levelünkhöz csatolt, Pielbags és Potočnik európai uniós biztos uraknak címzett levelet, amiben véleményezzük az említett EB közleményt.

A témában zajló nemzetközi folyamatok⁶ tágabb civil szempontú bemutatásának céljával szintén csatoljuk levelünkhöz a Beyond 2015 azon levelét, amelyből megismerheti a Nyitott Munkacsoport legutóbbi „Zero Draft” dokumentumára vonatkozó szakvéleményünket is.

¹ beyond2015.org

² http://hand.org.hu/hirek/civil_egyuttmukodes_az_alakulo_fenntarthato_fejlesztési_celokrol_magyarorszagon

³ <http://nefe.kormany.hu/post-2015>

⁴ Lásd: csatolt levél Pielbags és Potočnik uniós biztosoknak

⁵ EC Communication: “A Decent life for all: from vision to collective action”, <http://goo.gl/z5JFTh>

⁶ Zöldülő nemzetközi fejlesztési célok c. összegzőnket itt tekintheti meg: <http://goo.gl/pwA9Yh>

Magyarország a nemzetközi fejlesztés területén a visegrádi országok közül sem áll vezető helyen jelenleg; ám a Nyitott Munkacsoportban folytatott munkánk, az említett frissen elfogadott új stratégia, valamint a nemzetközi fejlesztésre vonatkozó törvény elfogadásával, egyes intézményi fejlesztésekkel, illetve a szakértő civilekkel való együttműködés fenntartásával véleményünk szerint országunk komoly sikereket érhetne el a közeljövőben e területen.

Örömkre szolgálna, ha elképzeléseink, illetve a fentiekkel kapcsolatos bármely kérdés megvitatására a közeljövőben – kis létszámban – találkozhatnánk Önnel!

Tisztelettel,

Budapest, 2014. június 26.

Bakosné Zohán Tünde- ügyvezető igazgató
ADRA Adventista Fejlesztési és Segély Alapítvány

Lukács András – elnök
Levegő Munkacsoport

France Mutombo – elnök
Afrikáért Alapítvány

Horgas Judit – programvezető
Liget Műhely Alapítvány

Bán Dávid – elnök
Anthropolis Egyesület

Adányi László – programvezető
Magyar Máltai Szeretetszolgálat; elnök,
Nemzetközi Humanitárius és Fejlesztési Civil Szövetség
(HAND);

Szántó Diana – elnök
Artemisszió Alapítvány

Farkas István – ügyvezető elnök
Magyar Természetvédők Szövetsége

Koppány Judit – programvezető
Beyond 2015 Nemzeti Civil Egyeztető Fórum

Gibril Deen
Mahatma Gandhi Közhasznú Egyesület

Rohonyi Péter - megbízott vezető
Beyond 2015 Nemzeti Civil Egyeztető Fórum

Aknai Zoltán - igazgató
Menhely Alapítvány

Simonyi, Gyula – elnök
BOCS Civilizációtervezés Alapítvány

Gyulai Iván - elnök
Ökológiai Intézet a Fenntartható Fejlődésért
Alapítvány

Gál Tibor - igazgató
Civitas Egyesület

Tüdő Petra – elnök
Patent Egyesület

Galambos Rita – igazgató
Demokratikus Ifjúságért Alapítvány

Mester Zsuzsa – elnök
Profilantrop Egyesület

Erős Barbara - stratégiai igazgató
Demokratikus Jogok Fejlesztéséért Alapítvány

Lőrincz Marcell - elnök
Szubjektív Értékek Alapítvány

Hargitai Dávid – elnök
Fókusz Alapítvány

Boda Zsolt – szóvivő
Védegyelet Egyesület

Szegfalvi Zsolt – igazgató
Greenpeace Magyarország Egyesület

Graczka Sylvia - elnök
Humusz Szövetség

Kerpely Klára – hivatalos képviselő
ZÖFI, Zöld Fiatalok Egyesület

Szilasi Ildikó Hermina – kuratóriumi elnök
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Beyond2015 - Europe

16 June 2014

Dear Commissioners Piebalgs and Potočník

CONCORD-Beyond 2015 European Task Force (ETF) would like to congratulate you on the new Communication “*A Decent life for all: from vision to collective action*”. We are pleased to see another joint Communication that addresses both poverty and environmental sustainability. Further, we support the **call for a universal agenda which is integrated and transformative** and that also **addresses “new” challenges** above and beyond the three dimensions of sustainable development in their strict sense. We emphasize that these challenges must include **democratic governance, tackling inequalities and ensuring peaceful and stable societies for all**. The EU has an important role to play in stressing these key issues and in promoting a root cause approach. In particular, the EU must show how it is ready to respond to the principle of a universal framework and address all of the goal areas domestically as well as in its external action.

We are pleased to see that the Communication underlines that the future framework must be “**rights-based and people centred**”. In line with that, we fully support the EC’s recognition that accountability, transparency and effective review are fundamental requirements. The new framework does indeed present an opportunity to develop a rigorous and effective global accountability mechanism directed at both governments and other actors. Furthermore, in a rights-based framework, **people’s empowerment and their active and meaningful participation must be placed at the centre**: they are key to the success of the future framework. We would not, however, wish to see human rights confined to any one goal area as they must underpin the whole framework.

The ETF hopes that the EC will support the assertion that “*the EU remains committed to ensuring increased Policy Coherence for Development*” (PCD) during the upcoming negotiations. The EU should promote the importance of ensuring policy coherence with all partners, urging them to agree to review their policies to achieve consistency with global poverty reduction and *sustainable* development objectives. PCD would be a key enabler of success within the means of implementation.

While fully supporting the Commission in the points highlighted above, the ETF considers that the rhetoric on these points is not fully carried through in some of the proposals, making it difficult to move from vision to collective action. We offer the following recommendations in the hope that they will be considered in the future EU common position:

- The Commission’s definition of universality remains slightly ambiguous. It is not clear from the Communication whether the EC supports all countries making changes in their own contexts on each and every goal area – this would be the strict and ideal definition of a universal framework, preventing any possible ‘opt out’ decisions. As regards **differentiation** within a universal framework, is not clear how the EC ‘proposal’ for responding to different country contexts would operate in practice, especially when the Communication clearly limits the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility (CbDR) to the environmental domain. How will it be possible to define the EU’s *responsibility* for example in the realm of the economy and governance?
- **There is a disappointing lack of focus on the actions that rich countries should take across most of the priority areas**, but especially in those linked to social policy, or human development. If the EU is to be taken seriously in the negotiations, it must come with clear ideas about transformational changes that the EU and other higher income countries should commit to undertake. To cite a few examples:
 - **Poverty**: we welcome the EC’s implicit recognition that the \$1.25/day international poverty line is inappropriate nowadays. Unfortunately, the ETF believes it is far too unambitious only to aim to “reduce” the number of people living on \$2/day. Poverty under \$2/day should be entirely eradicated and this should be considered a minimum for a future ‘poverty goal’. Furthermore, if poverty and inequality are to be tackled comprehensively, the EC should also look to propose measures to reduce extreme wealth and not just extreme poverty.

- **Inequality:** this cannot be tackled without redistribution through strengthened tax systems (including addressing corporate tax payments and illicit financial flows). This is not only necessary for creating an enabling environment for companies, but most importantly for governments to be able to offer quality services for their people and for differences in wealth to be addressed.
 - **Food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture:** it is regrettable that no strong recommendations are made regarding the need to eliminate harmful agricultural subsidies, to end speculation on commodities or to shorten supply chains.
 - **Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP):** the Communication focuses exclusively on rendering current consumption patterns and levels acceptable. However, measures are needed to ensure responsible consumption and production patterns with clearer commitment to the need to change lifestyles and reduce consumption. Responsible consumption and production in turn implies an absolute *decoupling of resource use and economic activities*, and a firm commitment to the concept of “planetary boundaries”.
- The Communication states the EC aims to “*integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development (social, environmental and economic) in a balanced way*”. That ‘balanced’ approach is not clearly evident. For example, it is disappointing that there is little which challenges current **economic paradigms** which do not operate in the interest of poor or marginalised people. The current narrative in this regard remains far from transformative and instead confirms a “business as usual” approach.
 - The ‘priority area approach’ in the Communication **does not sufficiently demonstrate integration**, rather tending to be silo-based. It would benefit from the three dimensions of sustainable development being addressed in each goal area. For example, it is not clear how the EC intends for climate change, reducing the carbon footprint, or ensuring we live within the ecological carrying capacity of the planet to be integrated as cross-cutting issues in all goal areas.
 - The Communication falls short of taking a **Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)**. Ensuring a HRBA across all parts of the framework is key to a transformative agenda which tackles the root causes of poverty and inequality. There is little to ensure that people’s influence over decisions which concern them is improved, there are few proposals specifically or clearly focusing on improving the situation of marginalised and excluded groups and all goals should be framed as ‘zero goals’ in the area of human development, if no one is to be left behind.
 - Though we fully agree that the future framework has to be one of **global partnership**, we would be very reluctant to see the EC propose that this should rely on a separate goal being created. This would likely be a replication of the highly unsuccessful MDG 8 and a recipe for failure. A universal framework must imply a global partnership in all goal areas.
 - Finally, we encourage the Commission to maintain its position regarding the need to strengthen current **accountability mechanisms** and to put in place new mechanisms where necessary. Rigorous, independent mechanisms will be needed which clearly encompass the ‘who’, the ‘for what’ and the ‘how’ of accountability. This will require the establishment of legitimate and adequate systems of responsibility, accountability and transparency which apply to all countries and all actors including the corporate sector. Such systems must support the progressive realisation of human rights and equitable, sustainable development for all. We hope that the EU will take the lead in seizing this opportunity to address the responsibilities and accountability of all actors.

We thank you for your long-standing commitment to these very important issues.

With our very best regards,



Seamus Jeffreson
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Cc: DG DECVO Unit A1; DG Environment Unit A1

Beyond2015

Campaigning for a global development framework
after the Millennium Development Goals

Kindly direct correspondence to

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Brussels, 11 June 2014

Subject: Beyond 2015 reaction to and recommendations on the OWG's Zero Draft on SDGs

Your Excellency,

Beyond 2015, a global civil society campaign consisting of over 1000 CSOs in over 130 countries, presents its compliments to your Missions and is pleased to share its reaction to the "Introduction and Proposed Goals and Targets on Sustainable Development for the Post-2015 Development Agenda (Zero Draft)" presented by the Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group (OWG) on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

First of all, the on-going negotiations evidence the political will to **tackle inequalities within and amongst nations**, a commitment to **deliver human rights** and **fight poverty**, the recognition that **women's rights must be realised**, including **reproductive rights**, as well as the importance of delivering **environmentally sustainable development**. **Beyond 2015** urges Member States to uphold this commitment in the ensuing negotiations. We offer a number of key comments on the document in this letter and specific textual recommendations on the targets in the annex.

We strongly welcome the re-inclusion of a goal focusing on **reducing inequality within and among countries**. This will strengthen the post-2015 agenda and show that the **'leave no one behind'** principle proposed by the UN High Level Panel can be a reality. We therefore call upon Member States to support this Goal, and to ensure that data is disaggregated by, at a minimum, gender, geography, income, disability and age, to ensure monitoring of progress for marginalized groups. (See Target 10.7).

We also welcome progress on the **Human Rights Based Approach**: many targets now display the required level of aspiration. It is important that the document goes further in formally recognizing that development is rights-based, understood in terms of enforceable rights of people. Consequently, development about should be consistent with people's rights, as well as with the carrying capacity of the planet. We would encourage Member States to bear in mind the Human Rights Litmus Test throughout their negotiations: see <http://cesr.org/downloads/HRs.Post2015.litmus.test.pdf>

We particularly welcome the inclusion of targets relating to broader systems of capital accounting, looking beyond GDP and incorporating social, human, and environmental capital **(8.16)**, and ensuring that statistical capacity-building support is available for this purpose **(17.30)**. This gives a window to new economic models that will further the well-being of people and the environment.

The fact that the document now talks predominantly of ‘sustainable economic growth’ rather than ‘sustained economic growth’ is positive, as is the clear focus on sustainable consumption and production. However, Target **8.1** (*sustain per capita economic growth of at least x% per annum*) is incompatible with the objectives of sustainable consumption and production and development within environmental limits. Instead of aiming at sustaining per capita economic growth, the OWG should look to *promote inclusive, pro-poor and sustainable economic development (rather than growth), focusing on positive impacts for the poorest and most marginalised groups within each national context*.

Additionally, **Beyond 2015** is pleased to see the continued presence of Goal 16 on ‘**Peaceful and inclusive societies, rule of law, effective and capable institutions**’. We are hopeful that a consensus will be achieved and that this crucial area will be adequately reflected in the post-2015 agenda, as it is pivotal to its success.

While we welcome a standalone goal on **climate change**, we suggest it should include more concrete and ambitious targets. The should be developed taking into account, and being consistent with, the UNFCCC negotiations towards an agreement to be reached at COP21, guided by the ultimate objective of the Convention. We believe that a strong climate change goal, including a dynamic application of the principle of CBDR, can be conducive to driving international action on climate change at the high ambition required. As such, it is crucial that **Target 13.1** commits the world to not exceed global warming of 1.5 degree Celsius.

At this final stage of the work of the OWG, **Beyond 2015** is still very much concerned about the **universality of the goals**. The document should be clear that all goals and targets apply to all countries, and should be applied with appropriate differentiation and international support according to their country context: it currently is not. The goals and targets must not only be ‘universally applicable’, but also universally committed to. The OWG needs to make an unambiguous reference to the universal nature of the framework. Universality must also encompass the goal on means of implementation (MoI) – which **Beyond 2015** very much welcomes. It should be made clear that a global partnership, in which all actors have responsibilities, is central to the success of the framework and its implementation. Further open and multi-sectoral discussions on MoI are needed to ensure that this goal reflects the interlinkages, coherence and comprehensiveness that are crucial for the effectiveness of the post-2015 agenda. **Beyond 2015** recommends that the document states clearly that Goal 17 aims at the practical realization of goals 1-16, as just “enhancing MoI” is not an end in itself.

Findings from **Beyond 2015’s** participatory research with people affected by poverty and marginalisation demonstrated that often they do not benefit from interventions meant to fight poverty, including the MDGs. If we are to deliver truly inclusive sustainable development, we have to explicitly include the poorest and the most vulnerable in all the targets. People living in poverty have taught us that they do not want charity; they want

capability to function. For these people, sustainable development must be "people-centered"; based on the respect of everyone's equal claim, entitlement and freedom to thrive and flourish. **No one should be left behind.** Consequently, **Target 10.1** needs to be revised in order to translate the political will into a real commitment: *Increase the recognition and fulfillment of cultural, political, economic, social and environmental rights for specific political, social and cultural minorities, and eliminate every legal and socio-cultural base for discrimination.*

We recognize that the zero draft includes more goals than many Member States perceive as ideal, but we remind them that we have ahead of us a full year in which to resolve outstanding issues. The co-chairs should prioritise a report that encompasses the breadth and diversity of issues on the table, rather than seeking to streamline too early, at the expense of a transformative post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

Please find attached the specific reactions of Beyond 2015 to the Chapeau and zero draft. We remain at your disposal to provide any further input.

Yours sincerely



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