

November 30, 2015

H.E. Ambassador Jeremiah Nyamane Kingsley Mamabolo
Chairman of the Group of 77 and China
United Nations
New York

H.E. Ambassador Joao Vale de Almeida
Head of Delegation
European Union to the United Nations
New York

H.E. Ambassador Andrej Logar
Chairperson of the Second Committee
UN General Assembly – 70th session
New York

Excellencies,

The organisations listed below would like to refer to draft resolution **A/C.2/70/L.31** under agenda 20 (a) entitled “Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda” sponsored by the Group of 77 and China.

We are writing to formally request strengthening of, and explicit emphasis on, the **participation of stakeholders** in the draft resolution.

The development of the 2030 Agenda was a historic achievement for the international community represented in the United Nations. A bridge was built between Member States and all stakeholders, achieved through a participatory, inclusive, transparent and open process during the entire post-2015 process including the inter-governmental negotiations. Such engagement facilitated a significant contribution that has been widely recognized by Member States, UN Agencies and all stakeholders.

It is with grave concern that we have noted that the draft resolution does not reflect this level of contribution and commitment to the development of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Hence our request to align what has been expressed by Member States and the 2030 Agenda itself regarding our role in this draft resolution.

Our specific requests are:

1. Use the terminology “**stakeholders**” coherently in line with **A/RES/67/290** and Agenda 2030. This is a broader concept that encompasses the diversity of actors contributing to sustainable development. Over the years, reference to civil society has varied from one resolution to another and we are hopeful that as we gear up for 15 years of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, this can continue to be the basis of shared understanding. It has a direct impact on the modalities for our engagement. Consequently, we call on Member States to build on the aforementioned resolution.
2. We would like to recommend that the resolution **recognizes the contribution of stakeholders in a stand-alone paragraph** – as it has similarly been done in several other resolutions including some of the drafts that the Second Committee is currently discussing, namely A/C.2/70/L.24 pp8.

We stand ready to submit specific language recommendations.

Listed below you will find a preliminary list of organisations signing on this letter. Others are joining and will provide the final list shortly.

Regards,

ATD-Fourth World Movement
ChildFund Alliance
CBM
HelpAge International
International Disability Alliance
International Disability and Development Consortium
Save the Children
SOS Children’s Villages
World Vision