

Thank you Mr. Chair,

1. What is the element which differentiates SDGs from MDGs? The answer is its universal application. Naturally the scope of SDGs is wider than that of MDGs. Yet negotiators should be prudent not to be too much ambitious; we need to control our temptation to put in a single basket everything while attaching same status to them.
2. Most countries have achieved MDGs with varying degree. What is the positive factor which has contributed to the modest but meaningful achievement of MDGs? The very key element for success is, I believe, the limited number of goals with indicators which were simple, clear, visionary, and aspirational. We need to learn from this in the SDGs formulation.
3. The provisional number of goals, sixteen, seems to be a bit too many. We should come up with optimal number of goals for the effective implementation. Of course, nobody will be left behind. Any specific concern which falls short of being a stand-alone goal can be accommodated in the form of target. Because most issues are inextricably linked each other, we can easily find suitable places within SDGs for them.
4. Speaking of tactics in preparation for the July HLPF meeting, each regional platform is supposed to reflect concerns of its member countries while multiple regions have many concerns in common. Let us concentrate limited resources on region-specific issues while colleagues

from the other regions take care of common concerns. This is the wisdom of Asia Pacific countries with long history. Wisdom comes with age. I know sometimes age comes alone.

5. As part of an indicative list, I would like to suggest resilience to disaster, water and energy for the following reasons;
6. Our region is the most vulnerable to the climate change induced disasters: roughly 70% of such disasters are related to water in the form of drought, inundation and slow onset of rising sea level etc: on the other hand, a nexus approach between water, energy and food is imperative.
7. This is not an exhaustive list. If there is an emerging consensus on the list, my delegation is ready to jump on bandwagon for our concerted efforts in HLPF meetings.
8. Turning to the relation of SDGs and climate change negotiations, both processes are mutually reinforcing. They cover the identical period of implementation and share many integral parts. But I am dubious whether all the major principles of climate change negotiations are to be incorporated in SDGs.
9. Once the SDGs are adopted at the global level, it should be translated into the country level planning taking into account different circumstances, policy environments and capacities that each country faces. It is the responsibility of each sovereign nation to add flesh to the skeleton of universal goals of SDGs and deliver its commitment to the

people. To this end, capacity building is critically important. Here the notion of partnership, whether global or regional, starts to intervene.

10. In this context, Korea fully supports the suggestion from ESCAP in its report "Fostering sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific" on developing a regional road map for implementing the UN development agenda beyond 2015. Now, ESCAP has the propitious moment to really serve its member countries.

11. Friends from Asia and the Pacific, let us sally forth in the international stage and march together. End.