



**Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan**  
**Ministry of Economy**

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**Statement by H.E Abdul Satar Murad  
Minister of Economy**

**Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ministers,  
Honorable Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen  
Good Morning/Afternoon!**

I would like to use this opportunity, to express my gratitude to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, for organizing this important conference here in Bangkok, and the warm hospitality extended to the member states during the event.

Mr. Chairman

We believe that the national development agenda, according to the High Level Panel on Post 2015 Development, should carry forward the spirit of the Millennium Declaration and the best of the MDGs, with a practical focus on issues like poverty, hunger, Water and Sanitation, education, health and social protection, women and youth employment, and focusing on most vulnerable groups.

To fulfill the vision of promoting the concept, it must go beyond the MDGs, which did not focus adequately enough on reaching the poorest and most excluded people. The notion of current economic growth should be shifted to more quality of growth and well-being. The Millennium Development Goals were also silent on the devastating effects of conflict and violence on development. The importance of good governance and institutions that guarantee the rule of law, freedom of opinions, as well as open and accountable government were not included. The need for inclusive growth to provide jobs on a large scale was also not addressed adequately. Creation of jobs should be in a manner to consider both, the economic growth and the social and environmental protection. I do hope that Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focus on the mentioned issues as much as the global and regional needs can be reduced.

Integrating the economic, social, and environmental aspects of sustainable development as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration, and addressing the need to promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production is an important issue that should be considered in post 2015 agenda. The role of private sector and civil society organizations are vital in realization of the sustainable and inclusive development. Apart from this, for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Land Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and countries with special situations the Official Development Assistance (ODAs), is essential means of implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is committed to actively engage in initiating an inclusive process of dialogue to assess the country development context and substantive sustainable development issues and identify very clear policies to realize the SDGs. The Government would also like to assess the gaps in planning, policy, institutions and partnership potentials that provide essential ingredients in pursuing sustainable development.

It is envisioned that the initiative on Post 2015 Development Agenda would contribute in providing important elements for our future National Development Strategy, National Priority Programs, and provincial development plans to foster

sustainable development in Afghanistan. The process will help in understanding the policy gaps and would provide appropriate recommendations for necessary policy harmonization for attaining sustainable development. One of the important outcomes of this exercise will be Country Sustainable Development Vision.

In conclusion, while wishing the conference a productive and efficient outcomes, I do hope to work together for achieving the objectives of Sustainable development at the National, Regional and Global level. It is clear that there are many challenges and obstacles ahead, but there are also opportunities and ways forward to tackle them. Let's joint hands to achieve this important agenda individually, nationally, regionally and internationally.

Thank you