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Interactive Dialogue 5: Building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions
to achieve sustainable development

Distinguished Delegates

Today we live in a turbulent and complex world. It is a world that has become much more interdependent than ever before. It is a world where some countries keep getting richer while some others still remain in poverty, constantly being wronged or overlooked by the rest of the world.

We are here today to adopt a universal agenda for the world we want to live in. The importance of inclusive and transparent institutions has been long recognized. Institutions determine how decisions are made, resources are governed and conflicts are managed. To build effective and accountable institutions at all levels we need to:

1. Strengthen institutional capacity for public resource management through e-governance.
2. Strengthen governance of private sector through enhanced access to finance and reduced regulatory burden for enterprises. The private sector is the main driver in the fight against poverty, providing 9 in 10 jobs [UNIDO IFC: JOBS STUDY, 2013].
3. Strengthen and ensure reliable and timely statistical data collection
4. Enhance monitoring and evaluation where there are formal channels through which people can evaluate draft laws and policies.

The foremost condition for development is peace and the existence of effective institutions promotes peaceful states and societies. According to the Office of the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth out of the 1.5 billion people living in conflict areas around the world, 40% are youth [http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/armed-conflict]. Only 20% of secondary school-aged refugees are enrolled in secondary school [http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/armed-conflict]. For some of us these are only figures but there are human lives and destinies behind them. Governments should never forget before any famine or war there are the people who should still prevail.

Goal 16 commits us to promote peaceful and inclusive societies and provide access to justice for all. Four million registered Syrian refugees have fled their war-torn country, leaving behind everything in pursuit of basic safety, while very few countries are willing to share the responsibility for them.

Will we let them become a lost generation?

The SDG agenda is a set of words. Now it's time to move from words to actions.
Thank you for attention.