



**STATEMENT BY HON. NETUMBO NANDI NDAITWAH,
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA, ON THE OCCASION
OF THE UN SUMMIT FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE
POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

NEW YORK

25 SEPTEMBER 2015

Mr Mogens Lykketoft, President of the General Assembly

Mr Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr President,

At the outset, I would like to express sincere appreciation and thanks to the President of the General Assembly for his able leadership and excellent stewardship in hosting this UN Summit for the adoption of the Post-2015 Development agenda. I also commend the erstwhile President of the General Assembly for having successfully steered the negotiation process for the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

There is an adage that “when you loose hope, you loose everything”. The Millennium Development Goals have given hope to millions of people living in poverty. For Namibia, which championed the launch of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) process, the significance of the MDGs cannot be overemphasized, as ample evidence exists to attest to their tangible impact.

Therefore, Poverty eradication must remain the central and overarching objective of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, in order to continue to transform the lives of the majority of people living in absolute poverty and reinforce the commitment of the international community to eradicate poverty in all its forms by 2030.

It is Namibia's strong view that the 2015 Development Agenda is a historic opportunity to eradicate extreme poverty and lead us to a world of prosperity, sustainability, equity and dignity for all. The agenda is also a major transformational shift that puts sustainable development at the core of the development agenda, transforming economies to drive inclusive growth, building accountable institutions, ensure good governance and peaceful societies, and forges a new global partnership based on cooperation, equity and human rights.

Mr President,

Namibia has declared war on poverty. Therefore, the global recognition that the eradication of poverty is the greatest challenge facing humanity must be effectively addressed and the Post-2015 development agenda must deliver on this noble promise.

Achieving an ambitious Post-2015 Development Agenda, including all the SDGs, will require an equally ambitious, comprehensive, holistic, and transformative approach with respect to the means of implementation. This should be supported by effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, sound policies and effective governance at all levels.

In this regard, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda we adopted in July 2015 should anchor, reinvigorate and strengthen the financing for development, identify obstacles encountered for the achievement of the goals and action needed to overcome these constraints, as well as support and compliment the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

As a member of the African Union, Namibia is convinced that the implementation of the African Union Agenda 2063 will complement realization of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Additional financial resources, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Official Development Assistance (ODA), public and private finance, remain major sources of financing for poverty eradication and development. In this regard, we call upon developed countries to meet and scale-up their existing bilateral and multilateral

official development assistance commitments to assist developing countries to meet the set sustainable development goals as set out in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Climate change is a global problem and requires a global response from all of us, both in the developed and developing world. Africa has been singled out for being the most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.

As one of the driest countries on earth, Namibia, like some developing countries, faces immense challenges of Drought, Land Degradation and Desertification (DLDD).

Later this year in December we will convene in Paris for COP 21 to adopt a legally binding agreement that will give hope to our aspirations to address the challenges posed by climate change, for this generation and those to come.

The Millennium Development Goals were about inclusion and not exclusion. Therefore, the International community has an obligation to ensure that both the people of Palestine and Western Sahara realize their inalienable right to self-determination, the creation of their independent and sovereign States, and their

unconditional admission as full Members of the United Nations and its Agencies.

Let me conclude by stating that the time to demonstrate the necessary political will and leadership to holistically implement the post-2015 development agenda is now. It is our duty, as leaders, to do the right thing and address the issue of poverty eradication in order to ensure that no one is left behind. This is the best legacy we can collectively bequeath to prosperity.

I thank you.