

**Involving all Partners in Implementation and Review Perspectives from Parliament and Civil Society (Germany) Side-Event at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 19 July 2016, 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Input: Daniel Jüttner, VENRO**

Dear honorable guests, representatives of member states, UN agencies and civil society organizations, ladies and gentlemen,  
First of all, I want to thank the German Government for the opportunity to speak at this side event.

I will focus on three points which I think are crucial regarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda:

First, a great promise of the agenda is its universality. The agenda is valid for all states, however high-income countries have a special responsibility: not only to deliver and implement the agenda themselves but to support other countries when it comes to implementation. This means to contribute to an enabling environment but also fulfilling the 0.7% ODA promise by 2020 with a minimum of .15% allocated to Least Developed Countries (LDCs). To achieve the .7%, Germany should not include in the counting the costs for refugees within Germany. Of course, refugee work within Germany needs to be financed as well, but it should not be at the expense of the impoverished in the global south. In addition to ODA, financing the SDGs needs innovative solutions like a financial transaction tax, which will hopefully soon be introduced in 10 European Union member states. Also, the fight against tax avoidance and tax flight needs to be intensified. To this end, Germany should support and not hinder the establishment of an international tax body within the UN. And it will be very important to finance future expenses for climate change out of additional resources on top of the 0.7% ODA. Last but not least, the German Government needs to strengthen and support international processes like the Forum on Financing for Development, support the establishment of an intergovernmental tax body within the UN and strengthen the means of implementation as outlined in SDG 17.

Secondly, the title of the Agenda “Transforming our world” demonstrates what governments want to achieve: nothing less than a global transformation to a sustainable world. To this end, we also need to transform the way our economies work. The 2030 Agenda is a declaration of interdependence: things we do in one country spill over to other countries and nobody can act in isolation. In order to reduce the negative effects, we demand compliance of all relevant actors to human rights, ecological and social standards (including ILO core labor standards) along supply chains and especially in PPPs and multi-stakeholder partnerships. Within Germany, the Government needs to establish a regulatory framework for the German private sector. Right now, with the

development of the national action plan for business and human rights, there is an opportunity to do introduce binding rules. On the international level, Germany should strongly support the process agreed in Addis Abeba to harmonize and strengthen existing principles for private sector investment.

Thirdly, I also urge the government to tackle the issue of social exclusion and inequality, and not only income inequality, and elaborate concrete steps to reduce it in and between countries as 2030Agenda demands. Inequality and exclusion are the main drivers of not only poverty and hunger globally, but of a deep discontent and frustration with politics and elites worldwide. In Europe, this often leads to xenophobia and radicalization, especially when it comes to migrants and refugees, and the success of right wing parties in nearly every European country including Germany. Within the UN system, inequality could be addressed at a strengthened Commission for Social Development.

To conclude: all the challenges pointed out above worsen living conditions and perspectives for people living in the countries affected by our policies, which in turn leads to more forced migration. The German Government has to find ways to establish a fair economic and financial system, “from free trade to fair trade” as the Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development uses to say. In order to move from rhetoric to action, the agenda needs to be mainstreamed across all ministries. In that sense, I am interested to see, how the German Government wants to ensure policy coherence.

Thank you.