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## Summary of main views of Finland for the Post-2015 Agenda

Finland aims for a new post-2015 agenda after the expiry of the Millennium Development Goals that is transformative in thinking and meets challenges of this era. It must combine the agendas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and other development related issues, such as climate change, as well as include a finance strategy.

**The key principles for Finland's engagement in the process** of defining the post-2015 framework are:

- **Universality.** The new agenda should be applicable to and responsibility of all countries. National circumstances may best be taken into account when looking at indicators of progress. The application of the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities - (CBDR) should be limited to the Multilateral Environmental Agreements.
- **Human rights.** The agenda should promote the realization of human rights and be guided by the core principles and standards in international human rights conventions. Gender equality and rights of women, children and youth should be crucial components of the framework. It should work against discrimination and promote especially the rights and equal participation of most marginalized people such as ethnic, linguistic, religious or sexual or gender minorities, disabled people, indigenous peoples, or people living with hiv/aids.
- **Reduction of inequality.** The agenda should include objectives on eliminating structural causes that perpetuate inequality as well as pro-active actions to promote equality. The quality of and access to nutrition, health, education, decent work, basic social protection and good governance should be ensured for all.
- **Respect of planetary boundaries.** The agenda should comply with the planetary boundaries and promote sustainable management of natural resources. Sustainable development must be mainstreamed throughout the agenda.

The post-2015 agenda must address the eradication of extreme poverty and all three dimensions of sustainable development; the economic, social and environmental. New goals need to be concise, limited in number, measurable and easily communicated. A new and more effective partnership between the states, civil society, stakeholder groups and private sector is needed.

**Implementation** of the new agenda requires coherent policies and various sources of finance. Finance should cover comprehensively domestic and foreign, private and public cash flows and actions, recognizing their complementarity. Emphasis should be given to national resource mobilization stemming from sustainable economic growth, domestic tax base and an enabling policy framework for business. International action, such as on curbing illicit financial flows, is crucial. ODA is important particularly for the least developed, conflict affected or otherwise vulnerable countries.

The new framework calls for **efficient monitoring** based on relevant and unambiguous indicators, joint accountability and clear spheres of responsibilities. Efforts need to be made to further comprehensive data and statistics, disaggregated by gender and other categories.

**The key issues for Finland** to be included in the new agenda are:

1. Peace and stable societies
  - Achieve peaceful, non-violent and stable societies, good governance, rule of law as well as democratic, accountable and capable public institutions at all levels
  - Foster societal dialogue and participation of all actors, media freedom and economic integrity
  - Eliminate all forms of violence against women and children, realize the right to protection for all and ensure equal participation of women in decision-making and conflict reconciliation
  - Enhance conflict sensitivity, conflict prevention and a continuum of a post-conflict reconstruction
  - Limit trade and proliferation of arms and strengthen disarmament control.
2. Gender equality and women's empowerment
  - Empower women and girls and strengthen their full access to education and work, political participation, as well as natural and other productive assets at all levels
  - End all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls
  - Guarantee sexual and reproductive health and rights for all
3. Rule of law, good governance and democracy
  - Achieve a transparent and accountable state without corruption and with respect for human rights for all
  - Exercise rule of law through birth registration, access to justice, legal protection and ending impunity
  - Enhance inclusive and participatory decision-making at all levels, right to information for all and the independence, capacity and accountability of the judiciary, police and public administration
4. Education
  - Provide inclusive, equitable and quality education and life-long learning opportunities for all
  - Integrate relevant knowledge, skills and awareness raising in education curricula, including sexual education and education for sustainable development
  - Ensure non-discriminatory access to inclusive and high quality education for marginalized people, especially people from minorities or with disabilities
  - Improve access to and quality of primary and secondary education, and subsequent vocational and tertiary education for all

5. Attain sustainable management and protection of natural resources and ecosystems
  - Ensure conservation, sustainable use and management of natural resources and ecosystems to enhance human welfare within the carrying capacity of planetary boundaries
  - Ensure the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities and equitable benefits for the society, particularly in natural resources use and management
  - Enhance sustainable forestry as well as their role in mitigating climate change
  - Mainstream climate sensitivity and promote actions at all levels to address climate change
6. Sustainable consumption and production patterns
  - Implement the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production effectively and time-bound
  - Foster resource efficiency of economic activities, use environmental friendly technology and innovations with governments and the private sector in all countries taking the lead
7. Resilience
  - Enhance the capacity of national administrations and local communities to invest in risk preparedness, reduction and management with regard to natural disasters and other risks
  - Mainstream policies towards resilience and disaster risk reduction
8. Sustainable cities and communities
  - Provide capacities for sustainable city planning and management, access to adequate and safe housing, transport and basic services for all
  - Ensure that all cities and communities are accessible to elderly and persons with disabilities
  - Enhance positive economic and social linkages between cities and peri-urban and rural areas
  - Decrease the environmental impacts and improve the quality of environment in cities
9. Water, sanitation and hygiene
  - Ensure safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation and hygiene for all  
Give special attention to gender sensitivity and the needs of persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable
  - Improve water-use efficiency, integrated water resources management, water quality, wastewater treatment and transboundary cooperation.
10. Marine resources, oceans and fisheries
  - Achieve sustainable management and protection of marine ecosystems and conservation of marine and coastal areas with integrated climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies
  - End harmful subsidies as well as illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
  - Increase regional planning and care for oceans and seas
11. Food security
  - Ensure access to adequate, safe, affordable and nutritious food for all as a universal human right and as a prerequisite of development
  - Increase productivity, resources and markets of small-scale food producers, especially women in a socially and ecologically sustainable manner
  - Enhance quality of nutrition, food safety and reduction of food loss

- Promote sustainable management and resilience of agriculture, forestry and fisheries

12. Energy resources

- Ensure universal access to sustainable, safe and affordable energy services for all
- Increase energy efficiency, sustainable use and share of renewable energy as well as research and technologies for clean energy
- Phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that hinder sustainable energy saving and consumption

13. Inclusive, green and sustainable employment and economies

- Advance an enabling regulatory environment that facilitates sustainable entrepreneurial activities, livelihood opportunities and realization of international labor rights for all
- Further policies that support creativity, innovation, improved access to markets and financial services and youth employment in support of sustainable development
- Focus on strengthening trade, taxation capacity, transparency and curbs on tax havens, tax evasion and other forms of illicit financial flows
- Promote a system of Beyond-GDP indicators
- Improve the status of actors in the informal economy, especially women, and increase productivity of micro-, small- and medium-scale enterprises

14. Information and communication technology

- Provide access to information, information and communication technology and services
- Advance the provision of information with regard to disaster risk reduction and early warning
- Ensure privacy protection, freedom of expression and speech and openness in the internet

15. Health and welfare

- Promote social welfare and health through all policy-making as a prerequisite for sustainable development
- Ensure universal access to safe, quality, effective and affordable health care and social services for all, especially for the most vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Ensure sexual and reproductive health and rights for all
- Focus on HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases and bio threats
- Promote prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases, and advance mental health
- Further universal health coverage and new innovative modes of financing in support of social human development