Promoting equality, including social equity, gender equality and women's empowerment

'When the past no longer illuminates the future, the spirit walks in darkness.' Alexis de Tocqueville

Gaps in MDGs

Absence of **genderbased violence** specific targets and indicators Insufficient attention to women and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights;

Lack of discussion on women's ownership and control of property as well as protection of women's labor

Absence of targets on **peace and security**

What did we learn?

No country can claim to have achieved gender equality

Backlashes against non – discrimination

Development is inherently about power...and power is all about politics (negotiations)

Strategy – Two pronged approach

Stand-alone goal on gender & women's human rights Equality (Gender Equality) as a crosscutting priority

Transformative goal on gender

- End of all forms of violence including SGBV (prevention and elimination) of early and forced marriage
- Guarantee women's economic rights & ensure women and girls have access to, control over and ownership of natural and productive resources including land, credit, energy, information and technology
- Value, recognition and redistribution for unpaid care work for women and girls
- Ensure equal representation and participation of women in informal and formal decision making and leadership positions in institutions, both in public and private spheres
- Guarantee women's sexual and reproductive health and rights and eliminate legal, social and economic barriers that restrict access to services
- Guarantee access to justice for women and girls' including ending impunity

Gender Equality – Cross cutting

- Health: Women's universal access to quality health services that are accessible, affordable and acceptable including a comprehensive package of sexual and reproductive health services
- **Education:** Equality in the provision of educational services throughout a woman's lifecycle
- Environmental justice: Recognize women and girls as key social, environmental and economic actors contributing to transforming production and consumption patterns towards sustainable development
- Call for gender targets to address:
- Food and water security
- Social Protection
- Full employment and decent work
- Sustainable Energy including climate change mitigation
- Sustainable utilisation and governance of natural resources
- Financing and Partnerships

Enabling Conditions

- Budget allocations for achieving gender equality
- An accountability framework that includes monitoring systems which collect sex and agedisaggregated data
- Political will that seeks to fulfill commitments previously made (IMPLEMENTATION)
- Nothing about us without us; ensure women's meaningful participation and an inclusive process where all voices are heard
- Realization that without peace and security, development cannot be achieved

Conclusion

"It is impossible to realise our goals while discriminating against half the human race. As study after study has taught us, there is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women" – Kofi Annan

"My frustration is those who wait until we are on the second floor and then they come to question the foundation! We have been building, and the Open working Group will continue to build. Once we have passed the first floor, please do not come to question our foundation. You have that time now!" Amb Korosi – OWG Co- Chair

"It is imperative that the new development framework 'measures what we treasure' and does not treasure only what it is able to measure" – Navi Pillay, **UN High Commissioner for Human**

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