



Madame Moderator,

I'm Valentina Bodrug-Lungu, Gender-Center, Moldova

On behalf of Women's Major Group Organizing Partner I would like to call your attention to the following points.

1. Gender equality is a cross-cutting issue, critical for the success of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. This needs to be effectively communicated to national and sub-national level policymakers, rights holders and all stakeholders for successful implementation. Additionally to the stand-alone goal 5, gender equality must be incorporate in all SDGs.

2. The cooperation between Governments and civil society organizations must be strengthened. The Governments have a responsibility to create the national mechanism that will offer a platform for dialog and cooperation with civil society and support both communication and implementation. Women's organizations should be included at all levels of decision making ensuring our long-term experience in promoting gender equality is explored, recognized and put to use. My country, the Republic of Moldova, has examples of constructive dialogue with governmental institutions. Women and Gender organizations are members of the Governmental Committee on Gender Equality, having a strong voice on the strategic decisions, monitoring of implementation processes and Government compliance with national and international commitments. Another mechanism is the Technical Coordination Meetings held under the OSCE Mission to Moldova and Government for dialogue between NGOs, state structures and donors. Sometimes the dialogue is not easy but we are ready to use all opportunities. Institutionalized mechanisms for involvement of civil society, including women and gender organizations, at all stages of policy development, implementation, accountability, follow-up and review must be established and continuously strengthened, and sufficiently resourced.

3. Equality between women and men and the gender perspective must be incorporated at all levels and types in the education system from the earliest age. Unfortunately, in some countries the gender education is neglected and presented as opposite of family education. It should be mentioned that gender mainstreaming of the education system at all levels and types is a tool to achieving de facto gender equality and improve the quality of education.

And finally I would like to remember to all participants that change starts with each of us.

On this regard we would like to ask you “How and when will you, when you come home to your countries, convene civil society, and all stakeholders and rights-holders, to initiate the process of transformation towards the SDGs?”