

WV Policy response to the 2030 Agenda for Global Action: At last, the world puts the most vulnerable first

The “Final draft” of the *2030 Agenda for Global Action*, the outcome document for the UN Summit on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, articulates an ambitious global plan to tackle poverty, hunger, disease and violence against children.

World Vision thanks the Co-Facilitators for providing an enhanced document as it now includes some welcomed emphasis on issues that were underrepresented before, including migration, the elimination of all forms of violence and the rights of the child.

World Vision welcomes its commitment to the full realization of children’s rights and capabilities, given the importance of investing in children as critical to achieving inclusive, equitable and sustainable development.

As Member States will meet to finalize discussion on this draft, World Vision recommends further alignment with the ambition captured in the Goals and Targets to ‘get to zero’ – to end extreme poverty. We further recommend that key language captured across the document be maintained as it can have major policy implications leading up to substantive development outcomes for the most vulnerable and marginalized including children and young people.

1. Edit recommendations presented in line with current format of the document:

Paragraph and proposed language	Justification
Preamble	
<p>This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity that also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. All countries acting in collaborative partnership will implement the plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty, violence and want and to heal and secure our planet for present and future generations. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps needed to shift the world on to a sustainable path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.”</p>	<p>This revised version of the preamble articulates the overarching agenda of the whole declaration. The elimination of violence is one of its key themes, and World Vision suggests that children and their families are the critical target group.</p>
<p>Para on People: We want to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential. We want to end poverty in all its forms; end hunger and malnutrition; end preventable newborn, child and maternal deaths; promote human dignity; combat inequalities in and between countries; achieve gender</p>	<p>Inserting this language will align with Goals and Targets and WHO agreed language.</p>

<p>equality and empower all women and girls; ensure quality education, water and sanitation and a healthy life for all; and secure the participation of all people and groups, including children, in the realization of the new Goals and targets.</p>	
<p>Para on Peace: All people yearn to live in peaceful and harmonious societies, free from fear and all forms of violence. We want to foster peaceful, safe and inclusive societies; to strengthen governance and institutions at all levels; to ensure equal access to justice; and to protect the human rights of all men, women, boys and girls.</p>	<p>The addition to this paragraph creates opportunity to better communicate the essence of the call for peaceful societies and is in alignment with language used in associated targets (16.2).</p>
<p>Introduction</p>	
<p>Para 6: We commit ourselves to working tirelessly for the implementation of the Agenda by 2030. This is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity which also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. It will be implemented by all of us acting in genuine and lasting partnership. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty, fear and violence in all their forms and to heal and secure our planet for present and future generations.</p>	<p>The additions provide consistency with the Preamble</p>
<p>Our World Today</p>	
<p>Para 11: We are meeting at a time of immense challenges to sustainable development. There are rising inequalities within and between states. There are enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power. Unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, is a major concern. Spiralling conflict, violent extremism and humanitarian crises and a growing migration challenge threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades. Natural resource depletion and adverse impacts of environmental degradation, including desertification, drought and land degradation and the prospect of irreversible climate change, add to the list of challenges which humanity faces. The survival of many societies, and of the planet itself, is at risk.</p>	<p>The movement of people is represented elsewhere (para 37), but its relevance to humanitarian crisis means that it needs to be included here (as it was in the zero draft)</p>
<p>Para 13. Almost fifteen years ago, the Millennium Development Goals were agreed. These provided an</p>	<p>The proposed addition emphasises the different manifestations of inequality that need to be</p>

<p>important framework for development and significant progress has been made in a number of areas. But the progress has been uneven both within and between States, particularly in Africa and least developed countries, and some of the MDGs remain off- track, in particular those related to maternal, newborn and child health. We recommit ourselves to the full realization of the off-track MDGs. The new Agenda builds on the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to complete what these did not achieve.</p>	<p>addressed.</p>
<p><i>The New Agenda</i></p>	
<p>Para 21: The most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states deserve special attention, as do countries in or recovering from situations of conflict. There are also serious challenges within many middle-income countries.</p>	<p>The addition of this text helps to draw needed attention toward the fragility of states recovering from conflict.</p>
<p>Para 24bis:</p> <p>We commit to eliminate hunger and all forms of malnutrition and ensure food security for all people, especially children. We will adopt policies that assure sustainable access to nutritious food for the most vulnerable people, especially those living in conflict and disaster prone settings.</p>	<p>Unlike almost every other major theme, ending hunger and malnutrition has not been referenced in the discussion of the New Agenda in a way that feels like an oversight. The New Agenda should recommit to Goal 2 and highlight the linkages between health and nutrition outcomes, especially as 45% of child deaths attribute malnutrition as an underlying cause of death.</p>
<p>Para 25: We will seek to build strong economic foundations for all our countries. Sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth is essential for prosperity. This will only be possible if wealth is shared through progressive policies aimed at redistribution. We will work to build dynamic, sustainable and people-centred economies, promoting youth employment in particular and decent work for all; and end child labour in all its forms. All countries stand to benefit from having a healthy and well-educated workforce with the knowledge and skills needed for productive and fulfilling work and full participation in</p>	<p>The addition will ensure conformity with other parts of text, especially target 8.7</p>

<p>society. We will therefore adopt policies which increase productivity and productive employment, financial inclusion, agricultural and industrial development, sustainable transport systems and modern energy provision and which build resilient infrastructure.</p>	
<p>Para 30: Sustainable development cannot be realized without peace; and peace will be at risk without sustainable development. The new Agenda recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies free from all forms of violence and oppression, that provide access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights (including the right to development), on effective rule of law and on effective and accountable institutions. Factors which give rise to violence, insecurity and injustice, such as inequality, corruption, poor governance and illicit financial and arms flows, are addressed in the Agenda. We commit to prevent and end all forms of violence against girls and boys to create a basis for long term human progress and stability. We must redouble our efforts to resolve or prevent conflict and to support countries emerging from conflict situations. We commit to remove the obstacles to the full realization of the right of self-determination of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which continue to adversely affect their economic and social development as well as their environment.</p>	<p>Necessary to specify inequality as an important contributor to conflict. Also to specify that violence against girls and boys needs to be stopped. Aligned with 16.2</p>
<p><i>A call for action to change our world</i></p>	
<p>Para 46: What we are announcing today – an agenda for global action for the next fifteen years – is a charter for people and planet in the twenty-first century. Children and young people, in particular, are critical agents for change and will find in the new Goals a stronger platform to enable them to become positive agents for change and the from which to channel their infinite capacities for activism into the creation of a better world. Children's and young people's ability to be positive agents of change depends on the investments we are willing to make in their health, nutrition, education, safety, protection and well-being starting their first 1000 days into early childhood and through adolescence and young</p>	<p>The proposed additions recognise the role of children specifically, and the fact that children and young people are already change agents.</p>

<p>adulthood thus ensuring that no child is left behind.</p>	
<p><i>Follow-up and Review</i></p>	
<p>Para 57: Follow-up and review processes shall be guided by the following principles:</p> <p>d. They will be open inclusive and transparent, and support the participation of all people and all stakeholders at local, sub national and national levels.</p>	
<p>National level</p>	
<p>Para 61: Each member state should, at least once every 3 years, for 5 reviews every 15 years, conduct robust and inclusive reviews of progress, based on a publicly available government progress report and complemented by contributions from civil society, academia, local government, the UN system, private sector and other actors. National Parliaments can play an important role in review processes as well as other national institutions such as National Sustainable Development Councils and local authorities.</p>	<p>We recommend reinstating the language used in the zero draft, which was stronger. We particularly support the concept of ‘robust and inclusive’ review.</p> <p>We would like reviews to be held every 3 years for 5 reviews over 15 years. Specific language detailing the number of reviews and the time frame is needed to ensure accountability at all levels.</p>
<p>Global level</p>	
<p>Para 70: The HLPF will ensure the necessary support for meaningful participation in follow up and review processes by the major groups, other stakeholders and the private sector and in line with Resolution 67/290, in follow up and review processes. The HLPF should regularly review engagement mechanisms, encourage and create opportunities for all stakeholders We encourage these actors to report on their contribution to the implementation of this Agenda.</p>	<p>Reference to major groups and other stakeholders should be similar as stated in resolution 67/290. Further, there is a need for engagement to be fit for purpose.</p>

II. Key language across the document to be preserved:

- The identification of **People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership** as of critical importance for humanity.
- Commitment to **reach the furthest behind first.**

- The commitment to secure the **participation** of all people and groups, **including children**, in the realization of the new Goals and targets.
- Commitment to achieve a world **free of fear and violence** and to **peace, security and justice** as integral to development
- Commitment to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children, recognizing the universal character of **violence against children**
- Commitment to **universal health coverage and to ending the preventable deaths** of newborn, children and pregnant mothers, recognising the factors that cause this.
- Commitment to **end hunger and all forms of malnutrition**, including the importance of access to safe and nutritious food all year round, recognising that this requires both a focus on increasing agricultural productivity **and** incomes for smallholder farmers who produce the bulk of the world's food as well as make up the 75% of the world's food insecure.
- Commitment to implement national **social protection** systems for the poor and the vulnerable under Goal 1, given the overwhelming evidence of the key role of social protection in improving access to food for these populations.
- Commitment to **early warning and disaster risk reduction and management**, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Strong recognition, exemplified in paragraph 18 (New Agenda), of the importance of **gender equality** and removing the barriers to development for women and girls, including the role that boys and men have to play in this.
- Commitment to **universal achievement of quality education**.