Introduction and proposed goals and targets on sustainable development for the Post-2015 Development Agenda – 2 June Draft OWG report

World Vision comments

<u>Overarching</u>

World Vision considers that the post-2015 agenda must promote peace and stability if it is to succeed in its ambition to end poverty in all its forms, everywhere. The world has recognised that peace and development and mutually dependent. Peace is an expression of the concept of 'just, equitable and inclusive' sustainable development that was eloquently captured in the Rio outcome document, The Future We Want.

World Vision calls for a post-2015 agenda that addresses peace and stability by targeting the broad spectrum of factors that drive peace, or that can lead to conflict and violence. These drivers include both familiar development concepts like child survival, access to services and economic opportunity, and ones that come from the realm of peacebuilding: access to justice, confidence in security and building the structural foundations of an effective state. Within a new goal framework, some of these drivers would appear as part of other goals, while others are best included as a standalone goal. The already developed 'Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals' of the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States are a valuable reference in assessing the scope of the post-2015 agenda.

World Vision recognises that the wide scope of any new framework has the potential to place the greatest burden on those countries that are least able to bear it. For the least developed, most vulnerable countries, all 16 focus areas are relevant and so the world must offer them special support. This support includes allowing them to prioritise a small but critical cluster of targets that together can enable a country to step up to a basic level of stability from which they can progressively realise the other targets. This cluster would include both peace and stability targets (eg ending violence, promoting inclusive citizenship) with foundational development ones (eg infant mortality, nutrition, basic education and jobs).

The 2 June Draft goals framework represents a significant step forward. Peace is placed as full-fledged goal and is apparent - though not explicit - across many other goals. As well as national responsibility, the goals recognise a number of dimensions of international responsibility for factors that drive conflict. The draft could still be enhanced, particularly by specifying the human impact of institutional and structural changes, in addition to those changes themselves. Such an enhancement would more strongly demonstrate impact. In addition, access justice is not well represented. In the formulation of 'just, equitable and inclusive' sustainable development, justice is the least well served.

Affirm: The implication of ending poverty in all its forms everywhere is realised in the breadth of the framework. In particular, the strengthened FA 16 (Peace) and new FA 10 (Equality) are significant steps forward.

Violence is addressed in a number of places and in various ways, emphasising violence against women and against children.

Suggest: The framework has in some areas a bias towards institutional and structural change over people centred change. An adjustment in the language of some targets to articulate more directly the impact on people's lives ('experience of…' 'access to…') would provide a more balanced and inclusive framework. This need is particularly evident in goals 10 and 16.

Conflict (and peace) could be more strongly present throughout the document. Drivers of conflict/peace are evident in many places, but are not acknowledged. This could perhaps be registered in an improved articulation of the means of implementation (FA 17).

<u>Specifics</u>

Goal 1: **Affirm** the overall shape of this, especially 1.1-1.5 as critical foundations for a positive cycle of progress out of conflict and poverty

1.3 Strongly **affirm** the emphasis on the most marginalised and vulnerable. Suggest that this be carried through the document.

5.11: **Suggest** that focus on men and boys needs to be elevated and possibly made more specific. Goal 5 rightly has prime focus on promoting equality for women and girls, but these days it is clear that more specific attention needs to be paid to men. This is important as a mitigator of conflict and violence, as well as promotion of gender equality and inclusive development.

6.1: **Suggest** that 6.1 read: "by 2030, provide universal *and equitable* access to safe and affordable drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene for all." Inequitable access could be a conflict driver.

6.5 **Affirm** integrated water management and transboundary cooperation as a driver of peace

Goal 8: **Suggest** specific reference needs to be made to ensuring growth in rural and remote areas to ensure equity. This could be part of a more disaggregated 8.2, but more likely needs a standalone target: "create an enabling environment for diversified sustainable economic opportunities in rural and remote areas"

Goal 10: **Affirm** the inclusion of Goal 10 as embodying the principle of 'just, equitable and inclusive' development. **Suggest** rewording at goal level: "*Promote equality* within and among countries". This could be carried through to the rest of the goal text – a positive formulation is more desirable in a goal.

Goal 10: **Suggest** that a target on promoting access to justice is included, as justice and reconciliation are powerful drivers of equality. "*achieve equitable access to justice and post conflict reconciliation, especially for the most vulnerable*".

10.5 **Suggest** deleting "empower and" from the start. It is implicit in the text that follows and confuses an already wordy target.

Goal 16: **Affirm** the strengthened form of this goal from the May 9 draft. This significantly improves on the previous text, with more positive language (toward peace rather than away from conflict).

Goal 16: **Suggest** that the balance between the human and the institutional needs to be adjusted across Goal 16. This is particularly important for 16.10, which lumps institutional reform of the security forces, justice and judiciary into one. Beyond 2015 offers good language for another approach: "People from all social groups feel safe and have confidence in security provision" "People

from all social groups have effective remedies to injustice, and access to and confidence in effective, accountable and impartial justice provision"

16.1: **Affirm** the inclusion of a violent death target, as an essential foundational peace target.

16.3: **Suggest** that international drivers are more explicitly referenced: "*by 2030 significantly reduce the international stresses that drive conflict, violence and insecurity, including reducing* illicit financial flows by x% and reduce money laundering and all forms of organized crime including human trafficking and illicit trade in arms, drugs and wildlife"

16.9 **Suggest** adding a x% target

Goal 16 (Rule of Law…): **Suggest** that across the board, experience of access to and effective service by the institutions is a target as well as targeting reform of the institutions.

16.12: **Affirm** this as a good example of setting a target for accessing services.

17/Goal 16: **Suggest** that a target be added: apply the principles of FOCUS and TRUST from the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States to international development cooperation for all LDCs.

17/Goal 16: **Suggest** that X targets are identified as core priorities for LDCs in recognition of the particular circumstances of the poorest and most vulnerable states. This will enable them to identify a relevant 'virtuous cycle' of targets that will enable them to break away from risk of relapse into conflict or crisis. This would give practical recognition to the idea of peace as a cross cutting issue, and enable the least capable countries to prioritise a small number of targets that will enable them to progressively realise the full spectrum of post-2015 goals.