

Permanent Mission of Honduras at the United Nations

MHONU/ONU/268 -2014

The Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Co-Chairs of the General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and in regards to the 11th session of the OWG held from May 5 to 9, 2014, has the honor to enclose its statement and proposal, as expressed during the discussion of Focus Area 11 of the Co-Chairs' document:

"In regards to Focus Area 11: "Promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns", Honduras appreciates the inclusion of target h) which highlights the creation of incentives for sustainable tourism.

However, we are of the view that the scope of sustainable tourism transcends beyond the SCP framework. Its cross-cutting nature, inter-linkages with relevant sectors under consideration, and its potential to improve the quality of life of communities and societies, should not be undermined in this process. Sustainable tourism is a key component in terms of job creation, economic growth, natural resources management, cultural heritage, infrastructure, as well as in the fostering of more peaceful societies and national identity, to mention a few aspects.

My delegation also considers that the placement of this target could be reviewed, and the language improved accordingly for clarity purposes, so as to better reflect the role of sustainable tourism as a tool in pursuing sustainable development, the Millennium Development Goals, and the eradication of poverty.

At this stage, we would like to propose the following additional language to this target:

h) Promote sustainable tourism policies and incentives at all levels to ensure that the benefits of this cross-cutting activity are extended to all members of society, in full compliance with sustainable consumption and production patterns.

My delegation would also appreciate the inclusion of 'tourism' in the areas mentioned on item t) of the Capacity Building section, under Focus area 15: Means of implementation."

The Permanent Mission of Honduras to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Co-Chairs of Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, the assurances of its highest consideration.

To the Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals New York New York, 9 May 2014