

UNESCAP Fourth Session of the Committee on Social Development

- (1) the national mechanisms needed to be put into place to ensure a balanced integration of the social, economic and environment dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the country;*
- (2) the kind of financing framework needed to strengthen the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda in the country; and*
- (3) the technical assistance and support required from the regional Commission in addressing social concerns and emerging priorities*

Once the global indicators are adopted in March 2016, the Philippines will prioritize the SDG targets and indicators, taking into account national priorities, capacity and resources. Notably, the Philippine Government has conducted several Technical Workshops on the formulation of the post-2015 indicator framework. Subsequently, robust monitoring system/mechanisms are being established to ensure systematic and timely gathering of data for the regular tracking of progress/accomplishments. The Philippine Statistical Development Program (PSDP) has recently been updated to include a chapter on the SDGs. The PSDP serves as the roadmap of the Philippine Statistical System geared towards the production and delivery of timely, relevant, and quality official statistics.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be mainstreamed into the national development planning exercise of the country similar to how the MDGs were integrated in the Philippine Development Plan. Thus, the SDGs will be articulated in the next national medium term plans and the long term vision. A number of these are already found in the current Philippine Development Plan (PDP 2011-2016) and its results matrices. Notably the succeeding medium-term plans will also serve as a guide to the annual Budget Priorities Framework to assure focus on the goals.

The Philippine Government is also in the process of identifying/ creating a body that will be in-charge of monitoring and steering policies to ensure that progress vis-à-vis the targets is on track. Existing multi-sectoral bodies with relevant mandates on SD implementation will be taken into consideration in establishing the organizational arrangement for SDG implementation to ensure that no social, economic or environmental issues will be left out in the development discourse. Based on the MDG experience having a multi-sectoral body allowed the participation of the private sector and civil society organizations in the implementation and monitoring of the MDGs.

On financing, the Philippines will continue to mobilize domestic resources through the national and local budgets, including resources from the private sector (public private partnership). This will be supplemented by external resources such as Official Development Assistance.

In terms of assistance and support needed, we encourage capacity development activities including knowledge-sharing on available venues for south-south cooperation. Countries such as the Philippines are not much able to tap into such opportunities and this may be due to lack of awareness of venues already in place. Further, countries with enhanced capacities are encouraged to continue supporting middle-income and developing countries in strengthening their

demographic databases not only in terms of improving their traditional data sources but also integrating new sources of data using available information and communication technologies.