



# UN Major Group for Children and Youth

the space for children and youth in the United Nations

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Intervention at the Informal Hearing for Stakeholders in Habitat III  
Panel 2 (15:00 - 16:15) - Vision: Quito Declaration, 7 June 2016

Thank you chair for giving us the floor. We would like to raise some points about the topic in the context of this discussion.

Quito Declaration, this is a critical element of the NUA. It sets the tone for the aspiration we seek to reach.

A general comment that most would agree with is that the current version of the vision needs to be more ambitious and aspirational, at the same it needs to lay the foundation of the critical paradigm shifts the agenda seeks to operationalise.

More specifically, as an overarching principle the vision needs to very clearly articulate the integration of the three dimensions of Sustainable Development as many member states requested.

A few absolutely critical elements that the vision misses out are as follows:

First we appreciate that G77+China recognises people-centred **and planet-sensitive** approach is the important cross-cutting theme.

A clear articulation of the need to contextualise the NUA within environmental thresholds, planetary boundaries and bio capacity is needed. We appreciated EU to support the reference to Planetary Boundaries. These are not new ideas, and in fact have wide spread recognition. Just to mention a few that relate to this venue.

The 2030 agenda clearly makes reference to the 'biological support system' of the planet  
The Chair's summary of the Intergovernmental Meeting- ESCAP Rio+20 Regional Implementation Meeting makes a clear reference to 'Planetary Boundaries'  
In the spirit of the STI Forum taking place in the next room, and the discussion earlier today in this room pertain to knowledge, we would like to highlight that the TORs of the SG's Scientific Advisory Board specifically mentions these terms.

The vision needs to more boldly address Inequality, not just equity. Leave No One Behind also implies appropriate allocation of responsibilities in proportion to magnitude of impact both between countries and within urban communities and income groups.

Economic and social inequality can bring more appropriate attention to high income groups compared to equity, which usually simply implies the provision to the poor.

But let's go much further. We should also discuss "Leave No Place Behind", in the spirit of Integrated Territorial Development. As we elaborated, without healthy rural and peri-urban areas no urban area will survive.

A narrowly tailored action agenda will undermine the integrity of urban-rural continuum, keep the urban-rural dichotomy, and therefore hinder the full achievement of sustainable urban development.

Preamble of Paragraph 5 talks about the creation of an action-oriented roadmap for implementation. We believe that in addition to this, there must be a MGoS Roadmap for Follow up and Review. It is comprised of timelines and methods of follow-up, as well as Science and Technology component which are necessary to achieve the sustainable urban development goals.

Thank you,