



**Group of Fifteen
The Summit Level Group of
Developing Countries**

**Opening Remarks
by H.E. Mr. Amr Ahmed Ramadan
at the Post-2015 Development Agenda through
the Perspectives of Geneva Based International
Organizations**

Thursday, 30 April 2015: 9.30am – 13:30pm
Palais des Nations, Room XXII, Geneva

Excellencies, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- On behalf of the Member Countries of the G-15, and on behalf of H.E. Mr. Ravinatha Aryasinha, the Chairperson of the Personal Representatives of the Group of Fifteen, I have the honor to welcome you to this event, to have an interactive consultation between countries of the Global South and Geneva based International Organizations on the post 2015 development agenda. I would like to most sincerely thank our speakers of today; Mr. Neile Buhne (UNDP), Mr. Lars Johan Lonnback (IOM), Mr. Casper Edmonds (ILO), Dr. Reyad Al Ahmad (WHO), Mr. Massimo Amadio (IBE) UNESCO and Ms. Xiangjun Yao (FAO). I also extend my sincere thanks to the South Centre, particularly Dr. Khor, Mr. Yu and Ms. Aileen Kwa with whom we have worked together to organize this consultative meeting on the Development Agenda.

- Today marks the first of the three series of the Symposiums that the G-15 in collaboration with the South Centre have organized that would enable the countries of the Global South to garner the perspectives of Geneva based International Organizations on their respective roles in the negotiations and implementation of the Development Agenda. This would also provide an opportunity for the developing countries to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented through the Development Agenda.
- The Symposiums themed “*The Post-2015 Development Agenda through the perspective of Geneva based International Organizations*” would be differentiated based on the three pillars of Sustainable Development Goals; namely, Social, Economic and Environment.
- Today’s meeting will focus on the “Social” pillar. The meeting is expected to address the aspects of the DA focusing on the: i) Role of the International Organizations in shaping the post 2015 Development Agenda and possible role in the implementation of the same, ii) Current status of negotiations and contentious issues, iii) Opportunities and challenges for the Global South during the negotiation and implementation phases of the DA; pertaining to Health, Education, Food, Security, Migration, Labor, Gender and Poverty & Inequality; hence the address from UNDP, IOM, ILO, WHO, (IBE) UNESCO and FAO.
- I am certain that today’s discussions will make a significant and realistic contribution and set pace and empower the meeting to boldly go to Addis Ababa,

Ethiopia for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development(FfD), July 2015 on Post-2015 Development Agenda process and finally when the meetings are held in New York to finalize the DA.

- With these remarks, I invite Mr. Vincent Yu.
- Thank you.
