

**Statement by the Foreign Secretary**  
**Asia Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Post 2015 Dev. Agenda**  
*BKK, 27 August 2013 (closing session)*

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***Mr Chairman,***

Let me thank the Royal Thai Government for convening this dialogue – at the Ministerial level – on Post 2015 Development Agenda.

We indeed had an interactive, open and encouraging dialogue with the participation of governmental, civil society and business representatives. Bangladesh would underline that all such future dialogues should remain open to civil society.

However, my delegation would like to flag that some critical issues, that were agreed in the Rio+20 outcome development, UN Secretary General's High Level Panel Report, SG's own report circulated last week and also the summary outcome of the Open ended Working Group (OEWG) somehow could not find their due place in the Bangkok Declaration we just adopted. Challenges like climate change, demography, migration, food security, public health are just to mention a few in that regard. The critical issue of equality - across the board – also remains missing in the Declaration.

Amb. Kumao, the Co-chair of NY-based OEWG, in his presentation yesterday (26 August), made remarks on the expectation from New York about Asia Pacific region to take leadership in the global exercise of development of a next global development agenda.

Over the process of finalization in the past weeks, like most other delegations, my delegation expected a quality and inclusive Declaration to come through. We wanted to see categorical reflection of the development pains of 'all people'.

However, the text we adopted and which would now be transmitted to NY, I would say, have been another missed opportunity!

I am afraid, I shall have to say that under such understanding and situation, we may not be able to lead to "transformative shifts" that we are talking about and expecting. We had expected a better quality Declaration articulating our aspirations to address challenges of 2030 – wiser expectations, bold actions to address challenges in a radically different and often unpredictable world!

I truly hope that our next generation would not blame us for being short sighted!

Thank you.

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