Mr. Chair,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement of Fiji and Benin made on behalf of the G-77 and China; and LDC respectively. We would like to commend the Secretary General for presenting comprehensive reports on various sub-items under agenda item.

Mr. Chair,

We are at an important juncture in development discourse. The deadline for the attainment of MDGs is fast approaching and the discussion on a possible development framework for the post 2015 period is maturing. A considerable progress has been achieved in reaching MDG targets. Yet, with less than 800 days remaining to the target timeline, a number of targets remain to be attained in many countries, particularly in LDCs. Therefore, there is a need for intensifying global efforts to finish the unfinished jobs, while we continue to work with the new set of development goals.

Global discourses have long been arguing ‘sustainable development’ as a crucial development imperative. From Agenda 21 through Rio+20 and the ongoing discussions within the UN, our understanding have, by now, substantially advanced.

We particularly underscore the ever worsening impact of climate change on sustainable development, such as, agricultural production and food security and nutrition. Many countries, including ours, are already facing huge challenge due to climate change. For a climate-vulnerable country, Bangladesh and having a rather sensitive ecology with a larger population, sustainable development is an existential imperative. Our achievements in development including poverty eradication, risk wither away due to the impact of climate change.

To that end, we welcome the newly established High Level Political Forum (HLPF). While it should essentially build upon and continue the functions carried out by the CSD, it should provide necessary political leadership and guidance for strengthening efforts in this vital area of sustainable development.

Mr. Chair,

The MDGs played an important part in making progress in addressing many of the key globally agreed challenges. Lessons learnt from MDG achievements should contribute to crafting of the SDGs. In MDGs, ‘poverty eradication’ was the principal objective. The post-2015 development agenda must have poverty eradication as its highest priority and sustainability should be at its core. We should work on how to make poverty eradication irreversible. In this context, we attach great importance to the work of the Open Working Group (OWG) for SDGs. We look forward to the
successful deliberations of OWG in the process to develop a set of aspirational, concise, action-oriented and universally applicable sustainable development goals.

Mr. Chair,

One of the key shortcomings of the MDGs is the lack of clear benchmark and indicators under MDG8- global partnership. This time, a genuine global partnership must be founded on strong political will and on the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibility' to implement the post 2015 development agenda. If the global community is sincere, committed and practical to deliver on the SDGs, in a world complex and uncertain than ever, it must deliver on the 'means of implementation'. The 'means', logically, have a broad connotation.

It is about finance, it is about fulfillment of ODA targets that our development partners committed decades back, but still remains to be fulfilled.

It is about trade – where on much of Doha Agenda or commitments made in Singapore or Hong Kong WTO Ministerial, remains to be delivered, still.

It is about technology. Much of our development – and often survival – is constrained because of lack of access to very basic technologies - be in water, in agriculture, in climate change adaptation. Some of these simple yet cost-effective technologies are indeed life-saving. 'Means' is also about support to capacity building – in a vast range of areas, in so many forms.

Some our development partners confuse us Climate change support' with 'development finance'. This should not be the case as we underscore the resources for climate adaptation are 'new' and 'additional'. Similarly, operationalization of climate funds are key – particularly when the 'fast start finance' experience has been poor. A legally-binding document needs to be concluded soonest - based on 'equity' and 'common but differentiated responsibilities'.

Mr. Chair,

Finally, a few words on the sub-item: international strategy for disaster reduction. Being a natural disaster prone country, Bangladesh remains committed to the cause of disaster risk reduction. A substantial increase in investment in disaster risk reduction is urgently required to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action. We look forward to the Third World Conference on Disasters to be held in 2015, and it should be the appropriate intergovernmental space to launch the successor of the Hyogo Framework for Action after 2015.

Thank you.