EPSU Inputs to Zero Draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Agenda

Intro Chapter. Declaration

Preamble
We question the attempt to cluster the 17 goals into 9 headlines in the preamble. We are in particular concerned that the consolidation has omitted any reference to Decent Work and presumably been replaced by “sustainable lifestyles for all”. We therefore suggest to include Decent Work in this headline. This could read as: *Foster inclusive economic growth, Decent Work, shared prosperity and sustainable lifestyles for all*

We also believe that we should second headline should read:

*Secure* education, health and essential services, rather than securing.

Introduction (paras 1-9)
We seek an inclusion of references to human rights, social justice and decent work in paragraph 3.

Our world today (p. 12-14)
In paragraph 12 we see rationale to include a reference to threats to democracy and fundamental human and labour rights, underemployment (i.e. working poor), and shrinking space for civil society.

Vision for the agenda (p. 15)
This is a commendable paragraph in its ambition but we would like to include also a reference to Decent Work and Social Protection Systems.

We suggest replacing affordable before drinking water by universal enjoyment of the human right to water and sanitation. Replace basic education with “free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education”.

The New Agenda (p. 16-29)

P. 17
Paragraph could benefit from explicit articulation of the fundamental freedoms: freedom of association and collective bargaining, of speech, of the press, of religion.

P. 18
Suggest to add access to quality education and decent work in place of employment

p. 22
We propose to reword as follows:
We commit to providing quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary. *We reaffirm our commitment to free primary and secondary education*. All people irrespective of gender, race or ethnicity, socio-economic background, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, children and youth in vulnerable situations, should have access to learning through quality education that helps them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to solve problems locally and globally, contribute to sustainable and democratic development and
participate fully in society. Every student has the right to be taught by a qualified and well-supported teacher, and to learn in safe, healthy and well-resourced schools.

p. 24
The aim is decent work for all, so rewrite as follows: ...promoting decent work for all and young people in particular. Include references to the social dialogue, and social protection, including floors: ILO

Rationale: “full and productive employment and decent work for all” is based on the four pillars: standards and rights at work, employment creation and enterprise development, social protection (including floors) and social dialogue.

p. 26
Replace employment with decent work. Replace efficient with equitable and sustainable before ...use of water and energy.

p. 28
Propose explicit mention of the “fundamental freedoms” which are not articulated in the SDG targets

Implementation (p. 30-37)

p. 30
General comments:
- Overemphasis on the private sector to generate the resources needed to deliver.
- Would suggest a new sentence on the role of the state at very start of the chapter.
- We miss any reference in the chapter on domestic resource mobilisation and progressive taxation

p. 34
Support giving a focus on policy coherence and coordination in reference to Trade, but should qualify for sustainable development

p. 37
When listing stakeholders – should include reference to major groups and in particular trade unions/labour

p. 39
Add a reference to human rights-based indicators

Chapter 2. Means of Implementation
We strongly support the inclusion of social dialogue (as Decent Work agenda pillar) as a Means of Implementation cross-cutting the goals 1,3,4,5, 8 and 10.

Para 5 opens up for something more specific about progressive taxation and how efforts to increase tax revenue should be linked to increased progressivity too.

Para 7 refers to all actors tasked to implement such a broad agenda. We would welcome a major groups reference and in particular trade unions.