Committee on Social Development, Fifth Session Bangkok, 28-30 November 2018

Statement by Mr. Maddhusudan Burlakoti, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Population of Nepal and Leader of Nepali Delegation on Agenda Item 2: Strategies for leaving no one behind in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Mr. Chairman,

Thank you for giving me the floor. At the outset, I would like to thank UNESCAP for convening this important meeting.

As we are now considering Agenda Item 2: Strategies for leaving no one behind in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, I will try to limit my statement to this agenda.

Nepal is committed to working its best towards achieving the SDGs by or before 2030. For the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Government of Nepal has established the following institutional mechanisms:

- 1. 'Steering Committee: Responsible to provide policy directives, works to create a conducive policy environment, and builds partnerships for achieving the SDGs; This Committee is chaired by the Rt. Honorable PM of Nepal. Hon. Vice Chairman is the vice chair of the Committee. Similarly, Hon. Finance Minister, Foreign Minister and Chief Secretary of Nepal are its members. Member Secretary of NPC serves as the Member Secretary of the Committee as well.
- 2. <u>Implementation and Coordination Committee:</u> Responsible for guiding line ministries on mainstreaming the SDGs into national, provincial and local plans; arranging financial, human and technical resources by mobilizing internal and external resources, and coordinating between the public and private sectors, civil society and development partners; The VC of NPC serves as the chair of this Committee. Hon. Member of NPC is the Vice Chair. Also, Finance Secretary and Foreign Secretary are its members along with FNCCI, CNI and NCC representatives. The Economic Management Division Head is the member secretary of this Committee.

3. Thematic Committees: Responsible for preparing SDG related plans, policies, programmes, budget implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. They have also to coordinate with sectoral government agencies, the private sector, civil society, international organizations and other partners. There are 8 thematic committees each headed by an NPC Member - Economic Development, Social Development, Infrastructure Development, Energy development and Climate Change, Agriculture Development and Drinking Water, Sustainable Production and Gender Mainstreaming, and Good Governance and Coordination.

For the Integration in Planning, Nepal has prepared the following policy documents related to SDGs:

- Preliminary SDGs report, 2015;
- Sustainable Development Goals: Status and Roadmap 2016-2030, 2017;
- National Review of Sustainable Development Goals, 2017;
- SDGs Need Assessment, Costing and Financing Strategy;
- UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2018-22;
- SDG Based Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines (National and Provincial);
- SDG Based Local and Provincial Level Planning Guidelines;
- Sectoral Policies in line with SDGs.

National Planning Commission of Nepal has been conducting trainings at provincial levels to groom and develop expertise in relation to planning, budget, and SDGs in the new federal set up of the country.

The Civil Societies in Nepal have been undertaking the following actions to achieve the SDGs:

- Advocacy
- Participated in global negotiation process
- Workshops
- Civil Society Platform on SDGs in Place

Theme of Cooperative Year 2017 in Nepal was 'Cooperatives for SDGs'.

Private Sector organized Infrastructure summits 2014 and 2017, Investment Summit 2017 and Energy summit 2016.

FNCCI has commissioned a study on SDGs 12 "Sustainable production and consumption pattern in Nepal".

National Parliamentarians Forum on Development Evaluation Policy of Nepal (NPFDEPN) organized a world forum of EvalPartners and Professionals and an Evaluation Conclave in November 2015 in Kathmandu.

Environment Protection Committee has organized various Workshops on SDGs in all Provinces.

Finally, we are hopeful that, with the stable and development-oriented political environment, committed public and private sector, and support and cooperation from our development partners, we will be able to achieve the development goals within the stipulated timeframe.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.