

33. **Mr Namwandi** (Minister of Education, Namibia):

Thank you very much. Mr President of the General Conference, Madam Chair of the Executive Board, Madam Director-General, Excellencies, I have eight points to make and I shall make them quickly. Namibia acknowledges that significant progress has been made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the education for all goals (EFA), but you agree with me that the two remain unfinished business. Many developing countries, sub-Saharan Africa included, have been left behind in achieving all MDGs and EFA goals. In view of this, MDGs and EFA goals should therefore be a starting point in developing the post-2015 development agenda. UNESCO, being a specialized agency of the United Nations system, should provide resolute leadership in the preparation and implementation of a post-2015 development agenda in its fields of competence. Regarding the content of the post-2015 development agenda, Namibia is of the opinion that the credible quality of lifelong learning for all, education for sustainable development, gender equality, culture as an enabler of poverty eradication and sustainable development, water management and water security and issues affecting youth should be at the core of such a development agenda. Namibia underscores the active participation of youth in governance and in fostering global citizenship because the future we want is for the Y generation. Therefore our generation has an obligation to ensure that future and yet unborn generations will inherit a world which has been managed sustainably, lest history judge us harshly. The development and implementation of science, technology and innovation policies in order to address contemporary ethical issues, including the management of natural disasters, ocean disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation, should also find their rightful place in the post-2015 development agenda. Information and communication technology (ICT), in our view, contributes to sustainable development in the context of knowledge societies. To conclude, Namibia would therefore like to see that the contribution of ICTs to sustainable development is adequately articulated in the 2015 development agenda. Certainly much has been achieved over the years, but the world is still far from fulfilling those demands that an envisaged sustainable society makes on us. I thank you.