

Ambassador Emeritus Patricia Espinosa  
Member of the High Level Panel  
on Post-2015 Development Agenda  
Mexico

22 March 2013

Ambassador Espinosa,

Allow us to take the opportunity of the next United Nations High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, organized in Indonesia, to highlight that Transparency International and Transparencia Mexicana are calling on you personally, in your capacity as a member of the High Level Panel, to ensure that transparent and accountable governance is included as a key principle and goal in the Panel's forthcoming report.

We understand that next week in Indonesia, the Panel will hold important discussions about the report, which will provide critical inputs into the road map for the post-2015 development agenda. For Transparency International and Transparencia Mexicana, the inclusion of governance as a recommended goal underscores its fundamental importance in advancing and sustaining development for all countries.

Governance that is transparent, accountable and participatory is the best means for strengthening public institutions, improving the performance of sectors like education and health, and building a solid foundation to fight corruption. As Transparency International has argued, progress on the Millennium Development Goals has been undermined by the failure to include governance and anti-corruption as part of the current goals and policies to reach 2015.

Yet 2015 represents the beginning of a new opportunity. It provides a unique moment to set right the problems that blocked past advances to fight poverty, including recognising the catalysing role that governance plays in a country's development.

More precisely, we consider that the Panel's recommendations on governance would be strong if they could reflect how good governance is universal and applicable to all countries. We would like to see targets and indicators addressing access to information (e.g. government budgets and service delivery), the rule of law, and civil society participation. At the same time, we believe that time-bound targets and indicators related to the principles of transparency, accountability and participation should be included across all the proposed goals. For example, related goals on education might include indicators that look at citizen's participation in the formulation, execution and evaluation of school policies.

To move beyond 2015, countries must agree upon steps and strategies that promote the transformative power of governance for sustainable and equitable development. The United Nations High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda is able to support these efforts by setting out a clear vision in its forthcoming discussions and report for how this would be achieved.

Transparency International and Transparencia Mexicana look forward to working together with you to advance this work.

Respectfully,



Huguette Labelle  
Board Chair  
Transparency International



Federico Reyes Heróles  
Board Chair  
Transparencia Mexicana