

New Zealand's Comments on MVI Interim Report

We thank the Panel for its diligent efforts to prepare this interim report. It is a good contribution to this important work, which Aotearoa New Zealand supports, and indicates progress in developing an MVI with direct policy application. We would like to make the following comments:

- The discussion of vulnerability and resilience, and their structural and non-structural components provides a useful conceptual basis for indicator and index development. Focussing the index and its composite indicators on structural vulnerability and resilience is particularly helpful.
- The report usefully breaks down both the vulnerability and resilience components of a potential MVI, into economic, environmental and social categories. This is important to reflect the entirety of the sustainable development agenda.
- The report usefully introduces the important issue of how the Index might be used to guide development finance allocations. This exploration of the use of the Index is a further step that will animate needed debate amongst UN members. The general remarks in paragraphs 71 and 74 draw this issue to the attention of members.
- The critical work now will be in the indicators that will go into the Index, and their relative weightings. This is important technical work. We acknowledge the challenge in presenting selected indicators and a precise method for their weighting and aggregation into the Index. We note the importance of data availability in possibly constraining the selection of indicators, and we look forward to being involved in the process of reviewing the indicators.
- We support the Panel's observations on the centrality of robust data and note that meaningful partnerships will be required to support national statistical capacity, collection and analysis. We would encourage UN agencies, Multilateral Development Banks, International Financial Institutions and relevant regional agencies to work with national governments to this end.