



**Statement by Thomas Schieb,
Minister Plenipotentiary of Germany
Informal Interactive Dialogue on R2P
(New York, September 6, 2016)**

Mr. President,

Thank you for giving the floor to Germany. First of all, Germany would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Jennifer Welsh for her commitment as Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect during the past three years. Ms. Welsh contributed crucially to the development of the R2P concept and to the dialogue on how to advance its implementation. At the same time we welcome her successor, Ivan Simonovic, and look forward to continuing the fruitful cooperation.

Germany aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and with the statement of the Group of Friends.

In his report on "Mobilizing collective action: The next decade of the responsibility to protect" the Secretary General points out the necessity to concert international action. Germany shares the views expressed and would like to underline two aspects of this report.

In a world that is facing many crises on a global scale it is of utmost importance to mobilize our collective action in order **to improve early warning and to prevent** genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. There is a need to coordinate more intensively our early warning mechanisms

and to share information in order to be better prepared and to develop strategies to prevent those crimes against humanity.

Furthermore Germany agrees with the Secretary General that we have “to translate **words into deeds**”. The concept of R2P was established unanimously in 2005. More than ten years later we still face difficulties in implementing what we all agreed on. Germany would like to emphasize the importance of pillar two of the R2P concept in this context: We especially see the need to engage in supporting governments and conflict parties to find ways of solving conflicts peacefully and protect populations. This demands an effective early warning system as outlined above as well as concerted early action. Germany sees the need to engage further in finding means to operationalize the debate on R2P.

Germany also welcomes very much the initiative to include the implementation of Responsibility to Protect in the formal agenda of the General Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. President.