

**Statement by the Chinese delegation at ECOSOC 2011 Substantive Session on
Item 3: Operational Activities (a) Implementation of the police guidance of the
General Assembly and ECOSOC (b) Reports of the Executive Boards of
UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP**

(18 July 2011, Geneva)

Mr. President:

The Chinese delegation would like to thank the Secretary General for the four reports submitted under this agenda item. China associates itself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and would also like to make the following comments on this item.

1. On the comprehensive implementation of Resolution 62/208 of the UNGA on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development

Resolution 62/208 adopted by the UNGA in 2007 provides clear working requirements and the direction of effort for the UN development system in view of the increasingly tough challenges facing global development. In accordance with the requirements of the resolution, the relevant programs and funds of the United Nations overcame many difficulties resulting from the world financial and economic crises and conducted effective work, achieving positive progress.

The Chinese delegation believes that the coming few years will be critical to achieving the MDGs globally. The UN development system should comprehensively implement the spirit of Resolution 62/208 of the UNGA and the outcome document of the MDG High-Level Meeting, enhance the sense of urgency and responsibility, assign different degrees of priority to items on the development agenda, avoid disruptions, give the highest priority to achieving the MDGs according to schedule, focus on development and poverty eradication, increase support for the least developed countries, and increase input for capacity building and capacity development, helping developing countries to effectively improve their self development capability.

2. On the issue of development financing and improving the resource structure

Improving the resource situation of the UN development system is a core concern on the part of the developing countries at large. Adequate, stable, and predictable core resources are the foundation of operational activities for development and also represent the fundamental requirement of strengthening global development partnerships. At present, the declining trend in development financing and the unbalanced structure of resources are seriously affecting the coordination and efficiency of the UN development system and may further

weaken the basic characters of being universal, neutral, multilateral and grant-based and erode the principle of the “national ownership and leadership” of the recipient countries. The key to resolving the issue lies in whether developed countries can effectively perform ODA commitments as scheduled; the situation in this regard will have substantive impacts on developing countries’ efforts to overcome global challenges, eradicate poverty, and achieve development objectives as scheduled. The Chinese delegation calls on the development assistance actors to immediately take actions to improve actual actions of the UN development financing system in accordance with Resolution 64/289 of the GA on consistence of the UN system and the consensus in the outcome document of the High-Level Meeting on MDGs, performing their duties and commitments, in a concerted effort to achieve global development objectives.

3. Concerning the operation of the system of resident coordinators

China is pleased to see the remarkable achievements of the RC system, which played a positive role in supporting national ownership and leadership in coordinating foreign aid, and in ensuring the conformity of UN assistance with the development priorities of the recipient countries. The Chinese delegation would like to reiterate here that “national ownership and leadership” of the recipient is a basic principle and a guarantee for good results from development assistance. The effectiveness of development aid mainly relies on whether the assistance program is in conformity with the national development strategy and priority areas of the recipient country. Experience has shown that UN development agencies should provide targeted assistance at the country level in accordance with the specific situation and needs of the recipient, instead of seeking forced uniformity or fixed modality. The resident coordinators should strictly adhere to the principle of national ownership of the recipient, willingly coordinate with the recipient government, and report to it the operational results. They should also promote country implementation modalities, and use the experts and technologies of the recipient countries as a priority, so as to genuinely benefit the recipient countries.

4. On capacity building and south-south cooperation

Capacity building and development is fundamental to the sustainable development of the developing countries, and thus, should be a priority area for UN development operational activities. We have noticed that in recent years, the UN development system has increased its input into national capacity building, and has achieved very positive results. We hope the UN development system will continue to strengthen its policy and financial support for capacity building in the developing countries.

South-south cooperation is an important channel for the Developing Countries to tap their respective comparative advantages and come together to help each other, to enhance solidarity and achieve common development. For more than a decade, many developing countries have been calling upon the international community to strengthen its support for South-south cooperation, and to improve the development environment for south-south cooperation. The Chinese delegation is pleased to see the remarkable progress made in recent years in the economic and technological cooperation among developing countries, which has become richer in modalities, wider in scope, and deeper in terms of exchange and cooperation mechanism, bringing out the tremendous potential and vitality of South-south cooperation. The UN development system should provide necessary policy and financial support to South-south cooperation, and try to explore new ideas and new formats for promoting south-south cooperation. At the same time, we should also duly acknowledge that south-south cooperation is not a replacement, but a complement, to north-south cooperation, the central status and role of which should not be weakened or reduced.

Thank you, Mr. President.