

**Introductory Remarks by H.E. Amb. Hachani to the Coordination Segment of the
ECOSOC**

**“Towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals including those
contained in the Millennium Declaration”**

6 July 2005

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure this morning to open the general debate of the coordination segment of 2005 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council. The segment will focus on the theme “Towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration”.

This year’s theme is particularly timely in view of the High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly in September which will take stock of the progress made over the years to achieve the goals and targets contained in the Millennium Declaration, particularly the Millennium Development Goals

The theme is also closely related to the theme of the high-level segment. This linkage is an effort by the Council to bring greater thematic coherence in the various segments of its substantive session. This segment is expected to address the role of the UN system in supporting the national efforts to implement the UN development agenda that emerged from the conferences and summits of the last decade and a half, particularly the Millennium Summit.

The High-level segment has focused, inter alia, on the challenges facing developing countries and on the priorities areas in which future efforts will need to focus. The coordination segment will focus on the role that the UN system should play to support these efforts.

It is recognized that the UN system performs an important role in many countries to assist them in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. To perform this role effectively, the UN system organizations need to align their activities around these goals and so should the governments. This would be first step in creating synergies among the activities of the UN system organizations as well as with the national strategies and policies.

The Secretary-General has addressed this aspect in its report to the High-Level segment, E/2005/59, which is before you. The report provides important insights on what the system is doing to respond to these challenges. The report provides a major input for our discussions. .

, We have heard yesterday from the panelists what the organizations are doing to improve the way UN system works.

Our discussions today should focus more specifically on what is required from UN system organizations in assisting developing countries in their endeavours to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to the achievement of the international development goals.

Although we will not have a negotiated outcome of this segment, I will prepare a summary of the deliberations during this segment. This decision has been taken by the Council due to the exceptional circumstances. But the summary will be an important part of the ECOSOC input to the high-level plenary meeting. I therefore encourage delegations to actively participate in the general debate. I now give the floor to Mr. Patrizio Civili, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, who will introduce the Secretary-General's report. .