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Opening speech at the

**Luncheon Side Event in Preparation of the Germany DCF High-Level
Symposium "Effectiveness and accountability in the post-2015 development
agenda – lessons from the MDG experience"**

New York, 25 September 2013, 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Check against delivery!

Gentlemen and ladies,

It is a great pleasure for me to open this event on **effectiveness and accountability in the post-2015 development agenda**. In the international community, we have **come a long way** – from Paris to Accra to the **High-Level Forum in Busan**. In the Busan final document, we asked the **Development Cooperation Forum** to play an active part in implementing our joint decisions for more **effectiveness and accountability**. So here, at the **UN Development Cooperation Forum**, we are exactly at the **right place** to exchange ideas about these vital issues.

I. Post-2015 agenda and the Paris/Accra/Busan process

Development effectiveness is crucial to the success of the **post-2015 process**. We need to design all our cooperation in such a way that it leads to sustainable results. The **Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation** that was established in Busan provides a platform for sharing experience on implementing the effectiveness agenda. What is significant, in particular, is that the Global Partnership involves

donors as well as developing countries, South-South actors as well as international organizations, civil society as well as the private sector. We need the **diverse perspectives** of all stakeholders, and we need **their joint action** if we want to achieve an effective post-2015 agenda.

II. Relevant parameters for development and effectiveness

Since the introduction of the MDGs, the world has changed. A number of **large emerging economies**, in particular, have made impressive **strides**. Their economic and political weight is growing. And they are making a more and more important contribution toward achieving the MDGs – both among their own people and in other developing countries.

At the same time, tremendous **challenges** remain: many people in emerging economies continue to live in poverty, and managing the transformation processes is a difficult job.

However, all the success stories of the past few years have one fundamental insight in common: no country can be developed from the outside. Development goals can only be achieved through **change that comes from within**. This requires a sound basis in the form of **effective institutions** and systems to implement the goals.

Our cooperation must build on such transformation from within if we want to achieve sustainable results – no matter whether we are talking about North-South or South-South cooperation or about activities by international institutions, the private sector, or civil society. What continues to be crucial are the central **principles for more effectiveness**: alignment, ownership, transparency and managing for results. If we take these parameters into

account, we will be able to reach our common development goals on a long-term basis.

III. Accountability

In order to analyze our progress, we need transparent **accountability** systems. This, too, is one of the goals that we laid down in Busan.

Accountability has **several dimensions**.

It is about transparent and accountable government action at the **national level**. It is about strengthening constructive interaction between the government and the people.

And it is about **accountability between development partners**. At the **global level**, we need to ensure that the goals laid down as part of a post-2015 agenda will be measurable. To that end, we need suitable indicators as well as statistical systems.

IV. Issues for debate

But many other issues are on the agenda as well. How can we respond to the **differing levels of capacity and ownership on the part of different actors**? How can we record **qualitative** processes and change? How can we move from asking "**What** have we achieved?" to asking "**How** did we achieve it"? How can we establish incentives for effective and coherent cooperation among all actors in our goal and accountability frameworks? How can we link the different levels of accountability systems and the different issues addressed by such systems?

V. Concluding remarks

Gentlemen and ladies,

Thank you very much for joining us here today to discuss these important issues. I am already looking forward to deepening this debate **in March 2014 in Berlin** at the DCF High-Level Symposium.