Honorable Minister Matia Kasaija,
Honorable Minister of State Fred Omach,
Ambassador Oh Joon, President of ECOSOC
Distinguished participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to the second high-level symposium of the 2016 Development Cooperation Forum. I wish to join the President of ECOSOC, Ambassador Oh Joon, in thanking the Government of Uganda for hosting this important event.

This High-level Symposium marks the first global event to discuss implementation of the revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, following adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. How fitting to hold this event in the fastest growing continent in the world!
Ladies and gentlemen,

The achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals demands solidarity and the policies that are fit for the scale and scope of the 2030 Agenda.

First, solidarity begins with trust. And trust cannot be built without honouring past commitments. Those committed to providing 0.7 per cent GNI as ODA and securing $100 billion of climate finance annually by 2020 should do so without delay. Other actors should also do their part, in line with the common but differentiated responsibilities, equality and respective capabilities.

Second, leadership needs a long-term vision. Eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development requires leaders to prioritize long-term sustainability over short-term gains. Incentives that support champions of sustainable development should be put in place at all levels. International public finance, including ODA, should prioritize those least able to balance the trade-offs, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing states.

Third, policies must bring coherence. The SDGs apply to all countries and affect all forms of public policy. Multi-sectoral, integrated
and coherent policy responses will be especially important at the national level. A whole-of-government approach championed by the highest authority and engaging all relevant stakeholders helps ensure coherence between sectoral policies and their consistency with sustainable development.

Development cooperation in particular should support integrated policy approaches to sustainable development. Multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder processes within and beyond government should avoid favouring the interest of certain sectors and actors. Global policy processes, such as the modernization of the ODA concept and the development of broader measures of official support for sustainable development, should help set the right incentive.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Building trust, cultivating leadership and adjusting policies will be the responsibility of us all. No one has mastered making fundamental transformation of this kind envisaged in the 2030 Agenda. So, we must learn from each other.

You have gathered here as distinguished policy makers and practitioners in development cooperation. The Development
Cooperation Forum offers the platform for all actors, public and private, North and South, to learn and exchange.

This first day of the Symposium is yours to exchange ideas, initial thinking and policies on how to adjust development cooperation policies and interventions towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda. One session will also focus on the role of development cooperation to support the critical area of technology facilitation and capacity building.

During the second day, we will explore several specific aspects of monitoring and reviewing the impact of development cooperation: To be more specific, (i) country-driven monitoring and reporting frameworks; (ii) local level and citizen-based monitoring and review; and (iii) assessing effectiveness and impact of private and blended development cooperation.

Our discussions should yield concrete recommendations that we can bring to practice in our work. They will also make important contributions to the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development and High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
Let us be straight-forward and open with one another and make the most of this special opportunity and this space.

Thank you very much.

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