

## Welcome Remarks

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Informal QCPR workshop in preparation for

ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment

12 July 2012

- Your excellencies, distinguished participants, dear colleagues,
- Let me begin by extending my warm welcome to all of you. The Permanent Mission of Indonesia is delighted to host this informal workshop as part of the preparations for the 2012 Operational Activities Segment of ECOSOC and the upcoming quadrennial comprehensive policy review of the General Assembly of UN operational activities for development.
- In the past 9 months or so, many of us working in the Permanent Missions of Member States in New York have had the opportunity to participate in the various preparatory activities for the upcoming QCPR.
- These consultations have been very informative and constructive. They have elevated our knowledge of the UN development system, and, more importantly, enabled us to attain a more in-depth understanding of the issues that are likely to be at the centre of the upcoming QCPR. In this regard, let me share with you a few personal observations.
- **Firstly**, expectations about the outcome of the QCPR are high. Member States generally expect the QCPR to be an important departure for the UN development system. There is a sense that Member States need to make important decisions in the QCPR on UN operational activities for development at both the strategic and operational level.
- For example, the QCPR preparatory process has encouraged us to examine the value proposition of the UN development system and

what that means for the future work of the organization in this area.

- The analysis presented to us as part of the QCPR process suggests that any future strategic repositioning of the UN development will have important implications in areas such as funding, organizational arrangements and governance.
- **Secondly**, there is much work to be done to enhance the system-wide coherence of the UN development system and this issue should be accorded high priority in the QCPR negotiations. In this regard, we need to examine closely and with an open mind the experience of the “delivering-as-one” pilot initiative.
- The current systems to coordinate UN operational activities on the ground are generally felt to be out of sync with the demands of programme countries. The upcoming QCPR should not only reap the low-hanging fruits, but also address more significant weaknesses in the way the UN development system is coordinated, particularly at the country level.
- **Thirdly**, a high-performing UN development system needs “critical mass” of core funding. In March, the Permanent Mission of Indonesia had the honor to host a seminar on the funding issue. In this seminar we discussed the possible implications of the huge mismatch in the growth rates of development-related core and non-core funding in the past 15 years for the future work of the entities of the UN development system. I am sure that some of you will further raise this issue of “critical mass” of core funding in our discussion this morning.
- As this workshop is also a preparatory event for the 2012 Operational Activities Segment, let me take this opportunity to remind you that ECOSOC values the opportunity to hear from policy-makers from capitals. I encourage you to share your candid assessments, both in this workshop and in the Operational Activities Segment, of what is working and what is not, when it comes to the UN development system. We want the Operational Activities Segment to make a constructive contribution to the

process that will lead to the development of the GA resolution on the QCPR in the fall.

- I wish you a very constructive dialogue this morning and I am pleased to announce that you are all invited to a light lunch immediately after the workshop.
- Thank you.