



Republic of Angola

STATEMENT

Delivered by

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At the

Third International Conference on Financing for Development

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Mr. President,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Angola Government, I would like to join the previous speakers in thanking the Prime Minister of Ethiopia for hosting this important conference. I would also thank the co-facilitators, Ambassadors George Talbot and Geir Pedersen, for the excellent work they have done in putting together the draft outcome document.

At the outset, I wish to align my Delegation with the statement delivered by South Africa, on behalf of G77 and China.

Angola looks forward to working with all stakeholders, to make the Addis Ababa Action Agenda a resounding success.

Mr. President,

The preparatory process hasn't been an easy matter to deal with. As a matter of fact, negotiations have often been very long and demanding. But despite the difficulties encountered, Angola is delighted to know that financing for development draws the attention of the international community. With such level of engagement, one could not expect the process of preparation to be easily done.

Mr. President,

Fifteen years ago in Monterrey, the world made historic commitments to eradicate poverty, promote sustainable development and advance economic growth. We are here in Addis Ababa to critically assess the progress that has been made in honoring these commitments.

This stock making exercise comes at a time when the international community is giving the final push for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and simultaneously deliberating for the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen,

This conference should become a milestone in the fight against world poverty. Poverty eradication is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and inclusive economic growth is a sine qua non for eradicating poverty and providing a better quality of life to our people. It is imperative that these priorities of the developing countries are supported by the international community through enhanced financial and technological assistance and through a supportive and fair international economic system.

While we have made significant advances in reducing poverty and achieving human development over the past decade, the progress in the achievement of the Millennium

Development Goals (MDGs) has been uneven and many of the goals will not be met by 2015.

A key reason for our collective failure to achieve the MDGs has been the shortfall in development financing. The global partnership to provide the support to achieve the MDGs has failed to deliver.

The last report of the Secretary General on the follow-up and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration presents a sobering picture. The multiple global crises of the past several years have had a deleterious impact on the ability of developing countries to mobilize finance for their development aspirations. Their capacities have been further eroded by the widening gap in aid delivery and reversal of capital flows.

The gap in commitments and disbursement of Official Development Assistance reached US\$ 167 billion in 2011 and further widened in 2012. Aid to the Least Developed Countries, which most need assistance, has also dipped in real terms.

It is a matter of serious concern that just as the world commits to accelerating progress towards the MDGs by the end of 2015 and elaborating an ambitious Post-2015 Development Agenda, the prospects for ODA point to a stagnation in the medium term.

At the same time, there appears no light at the end of the tunnel as far as the Doha Development Round of WTO is concerned. The stunted market access for developing countries is exacerbated by rising protectionist tendencies in the developed countries and falling levels of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

It is evident that if we are to succeed in crafting a transformative development agenda for the post-2015 period, we must craft a strengthened global partnership for provision of adequate and enhanced means of implementation to the developing countries as part of it.

The urgent fulfilment by developed countries of their commitment of 0.7% of GNI as Official Development Assistance (ODA) should be the starting point of a renewed and strengthened global partnership for the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The reform of the institutions of global economic governance to give real voice and participation to developing countries must also figure high as part of the new global partnership.

Mr. President,

South-South cooperation has increasingly complemented global development cooperation in recent years, even as large developing countries faces themselves increased developmental challenges of their own. However, unlike North-South aid, South-South cooperation is a voluntary partnership guided by its own principles. It must therefore remain free from externally imposed norms drawn from North-South assistance. It can neither be a substitute for North-South aid nor should it be used as a pretext to dilute existing aid commitments.

President,

The need for a supportive international economic environment, enhanced investment flows, a supportive multilateral trade regime and a strengthened framework for transfer of technology has never been greater to foster and sustain inclusive growth and job creation in developing countries.

The Financing for Development Process is a key pillar of the global development agenda. Its fundamental creed of ensuring enhanced and predictable financial resource flows to assist developing countries in pursuing their development priorities is in fact all the more relevant today and will remain so in the post-2015 period.

It is imperative that we must ensure the full and urgent implementation of the commitments enshrined in the Financing for Development process.

Mr. President,

The Third International Conference on Financing for Development is a timely opportunity to recall and strengthen previous commitments, and to ambitiously aspire for a better tomorrow by adjusting to the reality of today.

It would be right to adopt the proposed "Addis Ababa Action Agenda" as an outcome of this conference able to really address the development financing needs on developing countries. Beyond Addis Ababa, we must transform this outcome into concrete action, with a sense of urgency. And we need to develop a comprehensive and transparent system to monitor progress toward the Development Agenda post-2015. As part of this process, we should identify more clearly the respective responsibilities of developing countries and their development partners - donor countries, international institutions, the private sector, and civil society. On this basis we can establish better accountability, provided that it did not produce bureaucracy and would apply equally to all the parties involved.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, with a concerted effort, Angola is optimistic that we can achieve the goals we have set. The implementation of The Addis Ababa Action Agenda should be the next chapter in our collective efforts to create prosperity for our people.

Thank you.