



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic

Third International Conference On Financing For Development

Addis Ababa, July 13 – 16, 2015

Statement

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Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

- First of all, on behalf of the Czech Republic, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to our host country for organizing this important conference.
- We live indeed in an increasingly global world in which all countries, either developing or industrialized, facing the interlinked challenges and opportunities.
- In achieving an ambitious post-2015 development agenda in New York, a climate agreement in Paris and in the follow-up to the adopted Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, we need a success to be achieved here in Addis Ababa in order to pave the right path towards a sustainable world; the better future, which is within our collective reach.
- In this regard, I am pleased to announce that the Government of the Czech Republic adopted on Monday this week a new strategy of the Foreign Policy of the Czech Republic, in which many of those complex issues are reflected.
- This strategy clearly defines our three global priorities, which are: 1) security; 2) prosperity and sustainable development; and last but not least 3) human dignity.
- We, therefore, take our own responsibility in improving the well-being of millions of people, particularly women and children that are in disadvantaged positions in the world today being forced to migrate with a little respect to their rights, gender equality or justice at all.

- This year we have a great opportunity to address those underlying causes of the global inequality by promoting sustainable development.
- Excellencies, I am coming from the country, which went in its modern history both through war and peace, both through totality and democracy, both through environmental degradation and the current support of the green economy for sustainable development. I would like to assure you that this background is committing us to contribute to the final agreement; and we will continue in sharing such unique transformation experience with our partner countries and institutions.
- In this context, we hope for the adoption of the action oriented and the result oriented outcome document of the Conference providing us a balanced mix of financial and non-financial means of implementation; since both are equally effective and valid choices.
- However, I wish to recognize the central role of the domestic resource mobilization, including taxation and transparent and effective distribution of public funds, for sustainable development. In order to minimize illicit capital flows from developing countries, I do share the need to elaborate more on international tax reforms at the global level. We also support all initiatives in the area of the assistance for better, more efficient and fair tax systems.
- In addition, we will continue to encourage our private sector involvement in development cooperation through the business to business programmes, and by building synergies between the public, private and civil society sectors; and use of innovative financing mechanisms in general.
- Furthermore, illustrating the key EU contributions to the financing for development, I would like to underline the importance of trade since the EU remains the world's most open market providing duty free and quota free market access to LDC's. The Czech Republic supports and will support the Aid For Trade initiative to maintain the momentum for further trade liberalization and better market access, which will contribute to sustainable development.
- In concluding, I fully recognize that the draft outcome document of the Conference may not be ideal, but it should entail a balanced deal where no one should be left behind.
- I would like to appeal to all to continue to support the Financing for Development and to realize the objectives of sustainable development as proposed in the post-2015 development agenda in the spirit of the new global partnership. This will ensure that all actions will be properly monitored and implemented.
- I thank you very much for your kind attention.