

3RD FFD CONFERENCE, ADRIS ABABA, CLOSG SESSION, THURSDAY,  
16TH JULY, 2015

STATEMENT BY NIGERIA

Your Excellency Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegne,  
President of the Third Conference on Financing for  
Development,

Your Excellency Sam Kahamaba Kutesa, President of the  
69th session of the General Assembly,  
Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered  
by South Africa on behalf of the G-77 and China. On  
behalf my delegation, I wish to congratulate the  
Government and People of the Federal Democratic Republic  
of Ethiopia for successfully hosting this land mark  
conference. The importance that The Federal Government of  
Nigeria attached to this Conference was demonstrated by  
the personal appearance of the Vice-President of the  
Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Professor  
Yemi Osinbajo, who led our delegation.

Today, representatives of member states,  
intergovernmental organizations, civil society members,  
academics, journalists and all other stakeholders  
gathered here in Addis Ababa, can rightly, and proudly  
claim to have made history. The convening of this Third  
International Conference on Financing for Development in  
Addis Ababa is indeed a historic occasion.

The adoption of an outcome document after several months  
of protracted and sometimes seemingly deadlocked  
negotiations, is a testament to a new beginning in  
international multilateral diplomacy, and the ushering in  
of a new phase of global partnership.

The Addis Conference has given a new lease of life to  
multilateralism. It has also invigorated development  
diplomacy by refocusing global attention on key issues on

financing for development, such as ODA, FDI, taxation, domestic revenue mobilization, and overseas remittances.

The Conference also provided us the opportunity to discuss and specify actions against global challenges facing humanity, that include extreme poverty, climate change, disease, environmental degradation, global good governance, and other essential elements that should make our world a better place.

When member states decided to establish a new framework should succeed the MDGs, they realized that this new framework would have to go beyond social issues that the MDGs were primarily ceased with, and incorporate other development challenges of fundamental nature that could impact on the prospect of improving the human condition in the next fifteen to twenty years.

The members states quite rightly concluded that what was needed was a framework that would incorporate within itself an internationally agreed set of means of implementation that is backed by adequate resources especially financing in order to achieve a meaningful degree of realization of the vision that we have set for ourselves.

Thus, the FFD was a concept meant to be different but not opposed to the spirits of Monterrey and Doha, but to supplement and deepen their impacts with provisions for addressing the questions around sustainable development. The adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the framing of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provided us the impetus as well as the mechanisms for establishing a new global development agenda that addresses the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely the economic, social and the environmental aspects.

The realization that these three elements are intertwined

and would need to be addressed together and holistically, informed our decision to establish the various working groups in New York to discuss their essential features and contours, and to delineate the mechanisms for their actualization within the UN multilateral intergovernmental process.

The means of implementation and the development of the 17 Goals of the SDGs, have provided us with both a medium-term and a long-term blue print for sustainable development. With the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda today, we can confidently go forward with the hope and belief that we can now at last, overcome the challenges that have overwhelmed humanity and seemed almost impossible to defeat.

We now have a historic opportunity to defeat poverty and even to eradicate it from the face of the earth. We shall no longer be content to hope to managing extreme poverty, but we are actually looking forward to defeating it totally.

We can now decide to allocate resources to clean up our environment and avert the threat of annihilation of entire ecosystems. The forthcoming climate change meeting in Paris in December should be ambitious in this regard.

Small Island States need not disappear from the face of the earth, and like the legendary Atlantis, become only dim features in the memory and legends humanity.

By adopting the Addis Ababa Accord we have agreed to give LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other countries in special or peculiar situations a new lease of life. We are acknowledging that their situations should no longer be hopeless and that vulnerability need not be their constant companion in life.

We are also sending a message to countries emerging from conflict that we stand by them and we will see to their recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation. Importantly also, we are assuring each other of the indispensability of the United Nations and that under its auspices, we could still give hope to the world and develop a new type of partnership that is predicated on shared interests, shared values and shared responsibilities.

Mr. President, my delegation will like to commend all those who contributed to make today's meeting possible. We especially thank the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, the President of General Assembly Sam Kutesa and the ensure UN Secretariat for their invaluable contributions to the success of this conference.

We also wish to thank Ambassador of George Talbot of Guyana and Ambassador Geir Pederson of Norway for their stewardship of the FFD negotiations and the consummate skill with which they managed difficult situations during the long months of negotiations.

Finally Mr. President, Nigeria is of the view that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda may be a non-binding document, however, it has moral imperative of being faithfully implemented by all Member States and actors in the United Nations. It should not be a vain endeavour that resulted after months of careful negotiations.

Thank, you Mr president.