



Third International Conference on Financing for Development
13-16 July 2015
Addis Ababa

Honourable Heads of State and Government, Ministers
Mr. Secretary General,
Mr. President of the General Assembly,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentleman
Distinguished guests,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of Romania. Romania fully aligns itself to the statement delivered by the High Representative Mogherini on behalf of the EU and its member states.

Let me first thank the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for generously hosting the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the first of the three major milestones this year that are likely to shape international cooperation for years to come. I would also like to thank you, President of the General Assembly as well as Ambassadors Geir Pedersen and George Talbot, the governments, the UN secretariat, but also our civil society partners for the dedication and tireless efforts along this impressive journey.

As we all know, 2015 is a year of global action, starting with our Conference to be followed by the September Summit in New York to adopt the post-2015 Development Agenda, and the COP 21 in Paris in December for a new global climate agreement. The outcome of these three processes should strengthen and highlight synergies and co-benefits between poverty eradication and sustainable development including climate change.

The world has changed and important progress has been achieved since the first Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, 2002. Emerging economies have been driving global growth and many developing countries are now leading sources of private investments in other developing countries.

However, global challenges remain complex and require complex solutions. The recent economic crises, which have hit both developed and developing countries, have shown how interconnected the world is. This shows that countries' domestic decisions are no longer of only national interest, but have global effects. As the challenges facing individual countries may differ, mutually policies at all levels are crucial. Policy coherence at global, regional and national levels, across economic, social and environmental areas is needed for the achievement of global objectives.

Expectations are high. The financing framework and other means of implementation are critical elements of the post-2015 Development Agenda. This Conference is an opportunity to spell out this comprehensive framework for implementation of the sustainable development agenda and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. An ambitious and transformative post-2015 Agenda will require a set of means of implementation, including a comprehensive financing framework for sustainable development.

Given the synergies between Financing for Development and post-2015 Development Agenda, it is crucial to unify follow up processes. Thus a single accountability, review and monitoring mechanism for all elements of the post-2015 Development Agenda, and encompassing means of implementation, needs to be established, avoiding duplication. In our view the Addis outcome should address all the means of implementation issues in a balanced and universal manner. Financial means of implementation need to be given equal weighting to good policies and other non-financial means of implementation. A strong Global Partnership is the key to the success of the post-2015 Development Agenda.

Excellencies,

The new post-2015 Development Agenda should aim to eradicate poverty in all its forms and to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions in a balanced and integrated manner. All

the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) are as important as the objectives related to peace and security (both internal and international), together with the respect for human rights, good governance, democracy and the rule of law.

Data shows that each country faces a different mix of challenges and that the world has enough resources to meet the sustainable development challenges, if supported by appropriate policies towards agreed objectives. The attention should be placed on how to harness this potential.

For some countries, the first priority may be tackling basic social services. For others, it may be the focus on energy efficiency, managing their public debt, social mobility, health and education or some other issue. Successful implementation of the SDGs will revolve primarily around how national governments deliver for their peoples.

Regardless of the different priorities countries may have, the new Global Partnership should be based on and promote human rights, equality, non-discrimination, democratic institutions, good governance, rule of law, inclusiveness, environmental sustainability and respect for planetary boundaries. Women's rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are a key means of implementation and should be promoted at all levels. Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, good governance at all levels and access to justice for all is an essential means of implementation of the agenda and an important objective in itself. This includes strengthening the link between peace, human rights and sustainable development and ensuring effective systems for budgeting, monitoring expenditure and tackling corruption. The principles of universality, mutual accountability, consideration of respective capabilities, and a multi-stakeholder approach should also be fully respected

In order to ensure an inclusive, measurable and realistic implementation strategy for global sustainable development, we support a strengthened global partnership, including broad-based multi-stakeholder partnerships. We must recognize the role of the civil society and to ensure the effective participation in the monitoring phase.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The effective use of all sources of finance is crucial. Experience has shown that financial assistance alone does not necessarily contribute to development. Through the Aid and

Development Effectiveness agenda we should collectively focus on how to best cooperate in a true partnership by identifying all suitable means of implementation in the most effective way, shifting from aid effectiveness to development effectiveness and effective partnerships.

Domestic public finance is by far the largest source of financing directly available to governments for investment in sustainable development. National governments have the primary responsibility for efficiently mobilizing and using public resources. Moreover, taxation is an important component of the social contract that underpins domestic accountability. All countries should commit to achieving levels of government revenue that best allow them to sustainably fund, at domestic level, poverty eradication and sustainable development, including by strengthening the institutions responsible for revenue policy and collection and their oversight.

International public financing remains an important element of the overall financing available to developing countries, and in particular to countries most in need including fragile and conflicted affected states. It includes not only official development assistance (ODA) but also other official flows, South-South cooperation, and triangular cooperation, which have increased significantly in volume and importance in recent years.

Officially a “new donor” as of 2007, when became an EU Member State, Romania has so far constantly contributed to the international community and we have made important efforts in enhancing our capacity and becoming more actively involved in the international dialogue on development.

All 28 EU Member States, including Romania, reaffirmed their collective commitment to achieve the 0.7% ODA target within the time frame of the post-2015 Development Agenda. The international community should also help to target resources to where the need is greatest.

Trade is one of the key factors for inclusive growth and sustainable development, and it is an essential means of implementation for the Post-2015 Development Agenda. All developed countries and emerging economies should better target their Aid for Trade to developing countries, with an increased proportion of aid for trade going to LDCs.

Investments in science, technology and innovation are vital to achieving poverty eradication and sustainable development as well as to identifying and addressing pressing global societal

challenges. Developed countries and, increasingly, emerging economies have an important role to play in terms of technology development, transfer and dissemination, capacity building, and scientific and technological cooperation, in particular with LDCs. Romania pays a great attention to long-term investments and engagement in ICT research and digital innovation. The effective use of new and innovative technologies, in particular ICT, creates an enabling environment for sustainable and inclusive growth. Countries should build open information societies, where everyone has access to digital technologies and adopt legal frameworks to protect security, freedom of expression, access to information and privacy in the digital age.

Excellencies,

All of us, in governments and in civil society, policy makers at international, national and regional levels, consumers and businesses need to recognise that there is a role for us to play in ensuring an inclusive, sustainable future for all on our planet equally, and not just for a few. The responsibility lies with each one of us, in the developed countries as well as in the emerging and poorest economies.

We assure you of Romania's constructive role in all ongoing processes and we support their convergence in order to achieve a single, overarching post-2015 Development Agenda. For this purpose, we will continue to engage in an effective and unified manner in the ongoing international negotiations. In order to succeed, all of us will have to contribute our fair share.

Thank you!