

Thank you co-facilitators.

I would like to begin by thanking you for the Elements Paper. Based on our preliminary analysis, it represents a useful starting point for our deliberations. However, a detailed response is challenging in the context of a 3 minute intervention. We will therefore be providing comments in writing in due course.

As we begin the journey to Addis in July, we will do well to reflect on how far we have already come. Since Monterrey, the First International Conference on Financing, we have seen dramatic drops in poverty rates. Significant improvements in health, in education, in the fight against deadly diseases. Foreign Direct Investment, new public and private lenders, and even remittances from the diaspora provide unprecedented financial resources to individuals and states in the developing world.

As we look ahead, we recognize that Official Development Assistance has been dwarfed by these other sources. That does not in any way reduce our commitment to ODA – on the contrary, the provision of ODA must be sustained, and will be one critical element of the financing of international development, particularly for the least developed countries.

But it does mean we need to think about it differently. We need to think about how we can use ODA to leverage these other flows for development results. We need to harness the resources, skills, and networks of new partners, including the private sector, to improve the lives of people in poverty. Using innovative financial tools and approaches to mobilize additional investment into developing countries can help accelerate poverty reduction.

If the substantive content of discussion will hinge on the mobilisation of resources for development, questions of process also deserve careful attention. As we look at negotiating both Financing for Development and Means of Implementation under Post-2015 we must ensure that there is no duplication, and that negotiations only happen in one venue. Canada would be open to exploring a solution whereby the MOIs are treated principally through the FFD process then integrated as a distinct component in the Post-2015 outcome document.

As we plan for the future, we also need to remember that we do not have all the good ideas. We need to be listening to other stakeholders – the private sector, investors, civil society organizations, academics, women's groups, youth groups, multilateral institutions. We need their input and engagement.

Canada is committed to this discussion, and wants to see it come to a successful conclusion. We should avoid using this forum to fight past battles, or to score ideological points. An ambitious Post-2015 Agenda is developing, and our responsibility here is to harness the broad range of available resources to implement it.

So we will depend on the two co-facilitators to regularly remind us of the destination. To bring us back to the issues at hand. We will trust them to direct us well and to faithfully draft our discussions into a consensus document.

Thank you.