



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Namibia
to the United Nations
360 Lexington Avenue, Suite 1502
New York, N.Y. 10017



Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations
One Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza
245 East 47th Street, 36th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10017

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations

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Excellency,

As you may recall, in our first plenary informal consultations on System-wide Coherence on 13 March, we shared with delegations our intention to conduct plenary informal consultations on the papers requested by the General Assembly resolution A/RES/62/277 as they are provided by the Secretary General.

On 11 May the paper entitled “Strengthening the system-wide funding architecture of operational activities of the United Nations for development” was transmitted to Member States. We are therefore pleased to convene plenary informal consultations on that paper on **Tuesday 19 May from 10.00h to 13.00h in Conference Room 2**. Details on organizational arrangements of the meeting will appear in the Journal in due course. The Deputy Secretary-General will address the meeting and present the paper.

In that perspective, we would like to recall that, in his remarks at the first informal plenary meeting on System-wide Coherence held on 13 March, the Secretary General underlined that the complexity of the United Nations funding mechanisms makes it difficult to promote efficiency, effectiveness and coherence at the country level. This is also one of the main conclusions of the 2006 High-Level Panel on System-wide Coherence. The Secretary General also underlined that one of the objectives underpinning the funding system should be a closer link between funding and objective measures of performance of the United Nations development system.

As delegations know, that objective is also a key element of the General Assembly consensus around the issue of Funding (as reflected in the General Assembly resolution 62/208). The General Assembly has repeatedly recognized the mutually reinforcing links between increased effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the United Nations development system, achieving concrete results in assisting countries to eradicate poverty and the overall resources of the United Nations development system.

Furthermore, we would also like to recall the main conclusions of our predecessors, the Permanent Representatives of Ireland and Tanzania, on the issue of Funding (Annex to General Assembly resolution 62/277), namely that “there needs to be greater flows and greater predictability in funding” and also that “there needs to be a significantly improved balance between core and non-core funding”.

In order to continue and deepen the discussions on Funding during the 63rd session, it is our understanding that delegations should remain focused on the System-wide Coherence context and the United Nations operational activities for development, always bearing in mind the interlinkages with the issue of Governance, and that our ultimate purpose is to improve the effectiveness of the delivery of development assistance.

We look forward to a positive and fruitful discussion next Tuesday.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Kaire M. Mbuende
Permanent Representative of Namibia



Juan Antonio Yáñez-Barnuevo
Permanent Representative of Spain