

Cambodia's Statement
The Operational Activities for Development Segment
Economic and Social Council
21-23 May 2019, the United Nations Headquarters, New York

Madam President,
Mr. Secretary-General,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda opened a new chapter in the humanity's history books, marked by common desire to attain peace and prosperity for all.

We have set ambitious goals for ourselves, aiming to address priority issues such as eradicating hunger, reducing inequalities, preserving the planet's natural resources, and ending poverty. These are substantial undertakings, and our success will pave the way for future generations to live in prosperous, inclusive, and harmonious societies.

Yet there is no "one size fits all" approach to development. Impacted by historic and geographic contexts, different countries have different priorities, different access to resources and limited capacities. In this context, the United Nations development system must be positioned so as to enable greater collaboration between development actors, accounting for needs-based assistance while supporting national ownership of implementation processes.

With a view to General Assembly Resolution 72/279, on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, the Royal Government of Cambodia would like to note the importance of regional approaches. Revamping the UN development system at this level will optimize the use of resources while strengthening regional collaboration between the parties. Moreover, in this way, the UN development system will become more responsive to the needs of individual member states.

Naturally, this will require satisfactory development financing, and my delegation urges every party to live up to their commitments expressed in Addis Ababa and beyond. There is also a great need to avoid fragmentation and prevent UN actors from working in silos as such practices undermine effective action. UN agencies should be working together to find common agreeable solutions to ongoing development issues.

Indeed, development action must be people-centered, focused on regional needs, and implemented with transparency and accountability in mind. Success of the

Sustainable Development Agenda will undoubtedly depend on availability of financial resources, but more importantly, it will depend on the political will of all States to achieve long-lasting and transcending change for future generations.

Madam President,

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is an ambitious undertaking, which requires a concerted effort from the international community as a whole. Yet there are serious challenges to the Agenda's implementation. As stability and diversification in the financial sector should be further promoted to encourage innovation, global economy is being shafted by the imposition of restrictions and barriers on trade.

Constructive engagement, based on comprehensive strategic partnerships with a common drive towards an interdependent future is the only way forward. The Royal Government of Cambodia wants to build long-lasting, meaningful relationships with all its partners, and we are ready to work constructively so as to ensure that every country fully exercises its right to development.

Madam President,

As we strive to attain commonly shared ambitions of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, we must be guided by the principles of openness, inclusivity, and mutual benefit through closer international cooperation.

Multilateralism, openness, and total engagement with all the partners is what will push the 2030 Agenda towards its rightful success. My delegation sincerely hopes that in the spirit of win-win cooperation the global community will come together to promote peace, stability and prosperity for all.

Thank you.