

## **LDCs Remarks at the General Debate of the OAS of ECOSOC**

**Madame President;**  
**Excellencies;**  
**Distinguished delegates;**

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of LDCs. The Group aligns its remarks with the statement of the G77 and China delivered by the delegation of Palestine.

At the outset, we deeply appreciate you Madam President for your leadership in steering the activities of the Council in an efficient manner. We further commend the Secretary-General for his reports on various items of the Operational Activities for Development.

**Madame President;**

The Group of LDCs would like to highlight the following points:

We are three years into the implementation of the current cycle of the QCPR resolution. We recognize that there are some tangible progresses. The adoption of the UNDS repositioning resolution and the agreement on the Funding Compact are some of the concrete examples in this respect. We are also encouraged by the Secretary-General's efforts to put development back at the centre of the work of the Organization. This is vitally important for the legitimacy and effectiveness of the Organization. We would like to see that the repositioned UNDS is providing better support to the programme countries, both in qualitative and quantitative terms, to facilitate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on the ground.

The Group would like to reiterate its support to an empowered and strengthened Resident Coordinator system guided by principles of high standard of efficiency, transparency and accountability. We expect the Resident Coordinator to support the host government in its nationally owned and led endeavours to implement the 2030 Agenda as well as to follow-up and monitor its progress. We also want to see the RC system and the UN Country Teams contribute to the mobilization of resources from the donor countries and other stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs. We fully support that the RC system needs to have sound resources based on a predictable manner.

With regards to the new RC System, the group would like to give special mention to the Multi-Country Offices (MCO). We would like to thank the SG for a comprehensive overview of this issue in the report and note and support the establishment of a dedicated MCO in the North Pacific. Furthermore, recognizing that these RCs continue to juggle multiple UNDAFs, it is essential that they are appropriately staffed with the right expertise and predictable resource availability to ensure that they adequately and proportionally address the needs of their constituents.

**Madame President;**

We understand a set of guidelines for the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework is under preparation at the Headquarters level. We would like to see proper reflection of various development related outcomes and individual Programmes of Action into the new Sustainable

Development Cooperation Frameworks. For LDCs, along with the 2030 Agenda, mainstreaming the Istanbul Programme of Action or the subsequent Programme of Action into the Cooperation Framework is vitally important for coherent and synergized implementation of the various agendas. We would also reiterate our call that the Cooperation Framework needs to be developed in full collaboration with the national Government and in compliance with the national priorities. All UN entities and the World Bank Group, IMF and other international and regional organizations need to support the implementation of the Development Cooperation Framework. The RC should report to the host Government on the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Framework, in compliance with the UNDS repositioning resolution.

We would underline the need to provide greater focus by the UNDS on the economic pillar of the sustainable development, especially from the pool funding, for diversification, job creation, STI capacity building, access to technology and renewable energy and structural transformation. We are appreciative of the Secretary-General's initiative in developing UNSDG operational guidelines for the UNCTs on Leaving No One Behind to support RCs and UNCTs. We would like to underline that the guidelines should reflect, among others, on access to social services, food and education, health care facilities, finance and credit as well resilience against environmental and other shocks.

We are encouraged that both core and non-core funding have increased in 2017. However, we are concerned that core resources as a share of total funding has declined from 22.4 per cent to 20.6 per cent in 2017, setting a new record. This is taking us backward against the target of 30 per cent as recently agreed under the Funding Compact. We would call upon our development partners to not only increase their contribution to core funding, but to scale up the overall UNDS funding for the operational activities. Broadening the donor base is also an urgent call. We are hopeful that the Funding Compact will bring a transformative change in the quantity, quality and predictability of funding.

**Madame President,**

The Group would like to draw the attention of the house to paragraph 40 of the QCPR resolution. In this paragraph the GA expresses its serious concern at the declining trend of the share of expenditure of the UNDS going to LDCs and urges the system to prioritize allocations to LDCs by developing operational guidelines. The Assembly reaffirms that LDCs as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced support to overcome structural challenges that they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We are concerned that this year's SG's report on QCPR and Funding Analysis did not provide information on the UNDS support going to LDCs, which was always the case in earlier reports. We are requesting this information as soon as possible to reflect it in the ECOSOC resolution on LDCs, which is to be finalized before 6 June.

The Group would support strengthening the capacity and resources of the regional entities under single leadership as well as the multicounty offices. We would fully support the recommendation of the Secretary-General to strengthen the UN-OHRLS, to enable it to provide increased support to LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS. We look forward to next year's SG report providing analytical and in-depth review of the RC system and reforms so far in order to determine progress. **Thank you for your attention**