

**ECOSOC**  
**Conclusion of the ECOSOC Dialogue on the Long Term positioning of**  
**the UN Development System**  
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**Statement delivered by**

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**(Check against delivery)**

- Mr. Vice-President, it is Canada's view that these two years of dialogues have paved the way for forging consensus on the key parameters and directions to position the UNDS to efficiently deliver on Agenda 2030.
- There have been long and sometimes complex discussions but it was worth it. We have listened to each other, have agreed on core functions for the UNDS, and concluded that they have to be adapted to country contexts. Because of the SDGs, the reformed UNDS has a role to play in all contexts: for long term development, for humanitarian, crisis and fragile situations. All contexts BUT with due consideration to efficiencies, local ownership, and through inclusive partnership approaches.
- Canada's main take-ways from these dialogues are as follows:
  1. The UNDS needs to be reformed but those reforms should build on existing structures and arrangements;
  2. Reforms should focus on solving bottlenecks, inefficiencies, and delivering results in the field. That's where the UNDS belongs and that's where its impact should be;
  3. Field results are paramount, but HQ arrangements matter in order to achieve results. Indeed global processes have to be enablers for results in country, and NOT limiting factors, as they tend to be with over-centralized, fragmented and over-burdening systems.
- For these reasons, we believe that the governance of the UNDS in HQ has to improve at least on three fronts:
  - a. Leadership of the UNDS towards a common vision and more coherence
  - b. System-wide Accountability and incentives to achieve this vision
  - c. Transparency in planning and reporting
- We welcome the UNDG paper of 23 June. We believe it is a comprehensive set of proposals, which capture the main blocks on which further transformative reform initiatives should be built. We would

like to encourage UNDG to go beyond those proposals with a view to improve:

- a. The RC system, its effectiveness, impartiality and funding;
  - b. System-wide planning and reporting to account for joint-results;
  - c. The coherence and relationship between individual Boards and system wide governing bodies, ECOSOC and the HLPF.
- Looking forward at the next Quadrennial resolution for the UNDS, Canada would like to share the following perspectives:
    1. The resolution should be oriented at the outcome level. In this regard we would like to commend UNICEF for its “Suggestions for reforming the UNDS-Input for the 2016 QCPR”. We believe this results-oriented articulation of proposals nicely complements the UNDG Proposals for a more strategic and dynamic QCPR. We would like to encourage entities to continue working together to support us, member states;
    2. The structure of the Resolution should be revisited and include the key elements extensively discussed during the dialogues such as :
      - a. Responding to the 2030 Development Agenda
      - b. Clearly stating the core functions and funding modalities
      - c. Elaborating on organizational arrangements, in other words country and regional presence as well as reporting lines.
      - d. Institutional arrangements: The RC system, the move from UNDAF to UN Sustainable Development Framework, further cohesion and coherence of UN country team.
    3. Canada believes that the 2016 resolution should include clear instructions for a review of individual mandates of UN entities composing the UNDS, in the perspective of the upcoming elaboration of their respective strategic plans in 2018. It should also include an explicit request for a mapping exercise for UN field presence (in country and at regional level) for rationalization purposes, and search for further efficiencies, while maximizing UN-wide back-office and

support functions (monitoring and evaluation, procurement, quality control etc.).

4. The resolution will also have to be explicit regarding improving system-wide governance and partnerships among UN entities and between UN and non-UN organizations.
  5. With an outcome level resolution, it will be easier to elaborate a robust performance measurement framework to monitor implementation of the 2016 resolution. And this should be accompanied by provisions to enhance the follow-up mechanism through a strengthened ECOSOC platform and annual system-wide reviews to take stock of progress.
- In conclusion, Mr Vice-President, these dialogues have been a collective and inclusive endeavour. As others have already expressed, we believe that the zero draft of the resolution should equally be a joint-exercise. Canada stands ready to engage with all member states to discuss a common agreeable new structure and content for the resolution, and to contribute to its drafting in a collegial manner.
  - We believe it is important to maintain the positive and constructive working relationship that has prevailed among member states during the dialogues. This will be particularly relevant as we embark in the preparation and negotiation of the 2016 resolution, which marks a new era, one of universality, one of integration of issues and solutions.
  - From now-on, in this spirit of openness, we would appreciate DESA and 2C guidance on the process ahead of us. We would welcome the elaboration of a timeline with key milestones for consultations/exchanges with member states and the system on: the upcoming SG report, the key missing pieces of analysis, surveys and

assessments which will complement the Dialogue, and enlighten us further on the content and orientation of the 2016 resolution.

- I thank you.