



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement by Ambassador Wang Min at 2012 Substantive Meeting of
ECOSOC on Agenda Item 3: Operational Activities for Development**

New York, July 17, 2012

Mr. President,

The Chinese delegation thanks the Secretary-General for the report he submitted under this agenda item and endorses the statement made by Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. President,

Resolution 62/208 on the TCPDR of operational activities for development specifies the requests and charts the course for the work of the UN development system. The UN development system and its agencies have worked in accordance with the Resolution, made effective efforts and made progress in its work despite the difficulties brought about by the world financial and economic crisis. China appreciates these efforts.

The QCPR to be carried out on operational activities for development by the 67th session of the General Assembly will make overall planning and arrangement for the layout, activities and resource allocation of the UN development system, and exert further influence on the modality of the UN development agencies as well as the content and form of their cooperation with Member States. The Chinese delegation calls on the parties concerned to participate constructively in the QCPR process, take into consideration the objective analysis of the reality and needs of development and cooperation in today's world, give guidance and support to the UN development system and its agencies in their continued efforts to make achievement of the MDGs primary goal, identify development and poverty relief as their top priority, strengthen management, improve efficiency, and effectively help developing countries, especially the LDCs to achieve sustainable development. The Chinese delegation wishes to make the following points:

1. On financing for development and improvement of resource allocation

Public funds are the core of international development cooperation. Expanding financing for development lays the foundation for deepening of development cooperation. Sufficient, stable and predictable core resources are essential for the improvement of the resource status of the UN development system, and reflect the core concern of developing countries. The current downward spiraling of financing for development, the uneven resource structure and fragmentation of resources have seriously undermined the effective operation of the UN development system and its agencies. They may also further weaken the basic features of the UN development assistance, namely, its universal and grant nature, neutrality and multilateralism, and erode the principle of national ownership and leadership of recipient countries. The Chinese delegation calls on parties involved in development assistance to improve the UN financing for development by increasing the overall sum of core donations and improving the quality of non-core resources. Developed countries should shoulder the primary responsibility of financing for development, fulfill their commitments to official development assistance, increase, in particular, their assistance to the LDCs, and help the LDCs achieve on schedule their goals defined by the Istanbul Program of Action.

2. On United Nations Development Assistance Framework, Resident Coordinator System and Delivery as One

United Nations Development Assistance Framework provides an overall strategic framework for the cooperation between the UN development system and its agencies and recipient countries. Resident Coordinator System is a coordination mechanism of UN teams at the national level. Delivery as One is a useful attempt to improve agency and project management and implementation. Resident Coordinator System and Delivery as One contribute to implementation of United Nations Development Assistance Framework in recipient countries.

China wishes to reiterate that the principle of national ownership and leadership of recipient countries is the basic principle and offers guarantee for success of development assistance. The formulation and implementation of United Nations Development Assistance Framework should be based on

this principle, give top priority to the consistency between assistance program and the development strategy and priority areas of the recipient country. It is also important to improve the efficiency and flexibility in the process of drafting, formulating and implementing the framework in light of the actual conditions of the recipient country.

China is pleased to see Resident Coordinator System playing a positive role in coordinating the work of UN resident agencies, and ensuring the consistency between UN assistance and the priority development areas of the recipient countries. Resident Coordinator is the key for the success of RCS. There should be a more comprehensive inspection and management process for recruitment, employment, assumption of office, performance evaluation and accountability of Resident Coordinators. Resident Coordinator plays a key role in ensuring the coordination among various agencies and between the Headquarters and the recipient countries. Resident Coordinator should strictly abide by the principle of national ownership and leadership of recipient countries, work in coordination with the government of recipient country, and brief the government of recipient country on the outcome of the operation. Resident Coordinator should also work to disseminate the national implementation modality, give preference to local experts and technology, and take effective measures to help the recipient country benefit from the assistance.

China welcomes the success and potential of Delivery as One in its operations in different pilot projects and volunteer countries. We have also noted the challenges it is facing. Countries need to make voluntary efforts to choose the modes of UN development assistance on the basis of their own national conditions and development needs. The UN development system and its agencies should also make various attempts to strengthen coordination and improve efficiency, and provide targeted assistance to countries in accordance with their different needs. They should not impose uniformity or a fix mode.

3. On South-South cooperation and capacity building

South-South cooperation offers an important avenue for developing countries to give play to their advantages, strengthen unity and give mutual assistance, improve cohesion and achieve common development. The Chinese delegation is pleased to see that in recent years, developing countries have made much progress in economic and technological

cooperation, as evidenced by increasing forms of cooperation, expanding scale, deepening mechanisms for exchanges and cooperation. This demonstrates the huge potential and vitality of South-South cooperation. The UN development system should provide necessary policy and financial support to South-South cooperation, and explore new ways and means for promoting South-South cooperation. In the meantime, we should be fully aware that South-South cooperation is only a supplement, not a replacement to North-South cooperation. We should not weaken or dilute the major status and role of North-South cooperation.

Capacity building and development lays the groundwork for developing countries to achieve sustainable development. It should be a priority area supported by the UN operational activities for development. China welcomes the increasing input by the UN development system in supporting capacity building and development in recent years. We hope the UN development system will continue to strengthen its support for capacity building of developing countries in terms of policy and resources.

Thank you, Mr. President.