

Statement by Ambassador SUL Kyung-hoon

Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

General Debate

2012 Operational Activities Segment of ECOSOC Substantive Session

17 July 2012

New York

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Mr. President.

This year's quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) is taking place at a very critical juncture. First of all, we are rapidly approaching the year 2015, the target year set for accomplishing the MDGs. Secondly, we are entering into a new development phase during which we are mandated to establish a new set of sustainable development goals (SDGs).

This means that we need to effectively mobilize the whole operational arms of the UN development system to achieve the lagging millennium development goals through the upcoming QCPR. We also need to have the UN system prepared to address new development challenges and constraints. Therefore, it will be in our hands whether the UN system will remain credible and relevant in our future development efforts.

Mr. President,

The current global development landscape provides mixed perspectives for the future of development cooperation. The continuing adverse impacts of global financial and economic difficulties are threatening hard-won development gains.

Rising unemployment, in particular for women and the youth, will seriously hamper our potential to achieve sustainable development. While it is encouraging to note that more and more diverse actors are coming into play for development cooperation, this diversity, if uncoordinated, runs the risk of fragmentation and duplication. With the role of emerging economies increasing, South-South and Triangular cooperation offers greater opportunity for more effective development cooperation. As the volume of such cooperation expands, however, we face challenges of coordination and efficiency in this field.

Against this backdrop, my delegation believes that this year's QCPR should highlight the following points.

First, the QCPR should take a broader and longer-term perspective so that it can make contributions not only toward mobilizing the UN development system to implement its mandate, but also for promoting sustainable development and setting the post-2015 UN development agenda as well.

Second, the QCPR should provide concrete guidance in facilitating active engagement of the UN system with varied development actors, including the private sector, civil society, and other institutional players. We believe that the UN system should not refrain itself from interacting with other important entities and partnerships. Legitimacy itself will not guarantee the relevance or effectiveness of the system. Instead, my delegation believes that the UN's leading role should be fully utilized in bringing diverse players together and working with them in a coordinated and coherent way. As such, we also believe it would be extremely desirable to strengthen institutional frameworks for the UN system to work with other relevant

players and institutions like IFIs, G-20 and other global partnerships for development cooperation.

Third, we have to continue to enhance system-wide coherence of UN development activities. Building upon the experiences from the implementation of the pilot initiative of Delivering as One, we need to refine and propel the DaO beyond the pilot phase and integrate it into the UN operational activities as a whole. To do so, we have to give clear guidance to the UN agencies to strengthen the coordination role of Resident Coordinator. Horizontal accountability in UN Country Team should be firmly established. Concrete and clear standard operation procedures also need to be further developed. Furthermore, we need to further harmonize the business practices of each UN agency in the areas of procurement, finance, and human resources management and simultaneously expand the use of common country programming.

My delegation welcomes the plan to launch the 2nd generation of the DaO, as contained in the Secretary-General's new Five-Year Action Agenda. We will actively contribute and work diligently for the successful implementation of the initiative.

Fourth, one of the priorities of the QCPR should be to focus on facilitating the coherent transition from relief to development in countries affected by external challenges such as conflicts and natural disasters. It is necessary to strengthen the coordination role of the humanitarian coordinators in order to ensure country-level coherence. In this respect, we stress that the upcoming QCPR should properly address the issue of how to secure the qualified humanitarian coordinators and how to provide them with appropriate training.

Last but not the least, the Republic of Korea fully recognizes the importance of predictable, reliable, and stable core resources for the effective functioning of the UN development system. The growing imbalance between core and non-core resources should be fully addressed in the QCPR deliberations.

Essentially, we believe that the UN system must redouble its efforts to enhance the overall efficiency in using limited resources, regardless of whether they are core or non-core. For instance, it will be equally critical for the non-core resources to be used to allow flexibility and overcome high-degree of fragmentation. Such efforts will restore confidence and credibility in the UN system, which will ultimately work towards solving the imbalance issue between the two resources.

Thank you.