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**Opening statement by
H.E. MR. OH JOON
PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
TO THE DCF UGANDA HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM**

Kampala, 5 November 2015

**Development cooperation for a new era: Making the renewed global partnership
for sustainable development a reality**

Honorable Minister Kasaija
Honorable Minister Omach,
Under-Secretary-General Wu,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be with you all on the shores of Lake Victoria. The setting here is so fantastic that it is difficult to concentrate on the work, but we will do our best. I would like to thank you, Honourable Minister Omach, and the Government of Uganda, for hosting this second High-level Symposium, in preparation for the 2016 Development Cooperation Forum. The previous DCF Symposium was organized in my home country, the Republic of Korea. The next one will be held in Belgium next year. So three meetings will be instrumental for preparing for the 2016 DCF.

We have before us the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted just over a month ago in New York. The Agenda calls for concerted efforts to realize sustainable development for all societies, leaving no one behind. It resonates greatly with the realities and ambitions of all people, especially those in vulnerable and fragile situations.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The 17 global goals will come to guide national policy, budget and international development cooperation to extent that they are effectively “localized”, in open consultation with civil society and in line with national development priorities.

Our job at the global level, which I represent here today as President of ECOSOC, is to support this effort at translation and alignment at all levels, especially in this early implementation phase.

The Economic and Social Council will lead in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and its financing framework at global level.

The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, under ECOSOC auspices, and, every fourth year, under the auspices of the General Assembly, will review progress toward the 2030 Agenda. It will be informed by voluntary and country-led reviews, based on a global SDG indicator framework. This framework will be proposed by the United Nations

Statistical Commission by March 2016 and then put to the Council and Assembly for adoption.

The deliberations of the new ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum, as the follow-up mechanism for the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, will also form an integral part of the annual reviews. Both the HLPF and the ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum will take fully into account the work of the Development Cooperation Forum, which brings us here today.

Development cooperation, in all its forms, will be a key driving force for implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development.

Financial resources, capacity building and policy advice are all part of this important web of activities that we think of as development cooperation for the SDGs.

Development cooperation should serve to promote the full spectrum of sustainable development priorities in an integrated manner. It can help lead to synergies and mutual reinforcement across sectors, and to better linking inputs to effective results.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Inspired by the new global development agenda, let us be practical in our deliberations. Let us use this Symposium to exchange ideas openly, and to be frank about the real challenges and opportunities in (i) aligning development cooperation policies and practices to support the 2030 Agenda and (ii) improving monitoring of development cooperation and related knowledge sharing at country level.

Our deliberations will add value so far as they provide practical guidance to policy makers and practitioners and instill a sense of responsibility among all stakeholders.

As it happens, and as I told you, my own country, the Republic of Korea, hosted the first preparatory Symposium for the 2016 DCF in Incheon, in April this year. Deliberations were highly productive, even though I was not there, but I heard, and clearly contributed to the negotiations of the 2030 Agenda and Addis Ababa Action Agenda. I know our discussions here in Kampala will further advance our efforts in shaping the future of development cooperation.

I look forward to an open and productive dialogue.
