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CELAC
Comunidad de Estados
Latinoamericanos y Caribeños

**Statement of the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations, H.E.
Ambassador Xavier Lasso, on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean
States**

**Second Drafting Session, Preparatory Process for the Third International Conference on
Financing for Development (Declaration session)**

New York, 13 - 17 April 2015.

Mr. Co-Facilitators,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the member countries of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

At the outset let me thank you for your efforts in bringing us a zero draft for Member States to continue on the discussions.

As stated in RES/68/279, the Third International Conference needs to assess the progress made in the implementation of Monterrey and Doha, reinvigorate and strengthen the financing for development follow-up process, identify obstacles and constraints encountered in the achievement of the goals and objectives agreed therein, as well as actions and initiatives to overcome these constraints, and address new and emerging issues to promote international development cooperation, taking into account the current evolving development cooperation landscape, the interrelationship of all sources of development finance, the synergies among financing objectives across the three dimensions of sustainable development, as well as the need to support the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015.

Therefore, it is the CELAC's view that we should work towards the establishment of a genuine global partnership for sustainable development led by the United Nations, that prioritizes poverty eradication on its multiple dimensions, through the reduction of inequalities and the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies where no one is left behind to achieve and by



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deploying effective means of implementation. The notion of means of implementation consists, among others elements, of a combination of financial resources, development and transfer of technology, as well as capacity-building efforts and preservation of policy space in our countries to design, adapt and implement our development strategies, the promotion of an enabling international environment for overcoming development gaps and multilateral, universal trading system, based on rules, open, nondiscriminatory, equitable and with a favorable approach to development. These means of implementation must be supported by concrete actions from developed countries, including through quantitative time-bound financial targets, without conditionalities, besides those established for ODA, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as stated in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration, the reform of the economic global governance and the universal scope of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

The implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda constitute a strategic opportunity to advance gender equality and women's autonomy through monitoring and follow-up of sectoral agendas. Therefore we pledged to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective fulfillment of commitments, especially those aimed at expediting the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and of regional consensuses, which will require greater allocation of financial, technical and human resources, gender budgeting and accountability with a view to strengthening the implementation of equality policies in the framework of the post-2015 development agenda and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

CELAC countries also believe in the need to establish a holistic, multistakeholder inclusive and transparent financing strategy that considers the particular needs and aspirations of all developing countries.

The zero draft should maintain the adequate balance in underlying the need for sound national policies and strategies while ensuring an international environment that truly enables and is



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conducive to sustainable development, as an essential tool to support national efforts in this regard.

For this reason achieving the internationally agreed development goals, demands a renovated and even stronger partnership between developed and developing countries. Therefore CELAC believes we should commit to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law, as well as to mobilizing domestic resources, attracting international flows, promoting international trade as an engine for development, increasing our international financial and technical cooperation for development, sustainable debt financing and external debt relief, and enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems.

While we recognize the increasing importance of the private sector, the critical role of the State in implementing public policies and regulations cannot be overestimated. Therefore, principles for social and environmental responsible investment and business activities, and the establishment of Guiding Principles for Business should be taken into account. The key principle for private and innovative sources of finance should be additionality, and not substitution of other sources of Financing for Development.

An adequate financing for development strategy will require the mobilization of financial resources at all levels. We believe that strengthen domestic resource mobilization requires among others: 1) The improvement of market regulation and public policies to promote the generation of savings and their investment in financing for long-term sustainable development projects; 2) Strengthening international cooperation for capacity-building; 3) To combat illicit financial flows and tax evasion; 4) The promotion of financial inclusion.

Finally Mr. Co-Facilitators, we need to continue promoting the establishment of a comprehensive Action Plan for cooperation with Middle-Income Countries (MICs). In this regard, we recognize that, despite the achievements of MICs in recent decades, there still



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PROTEMPORE PRESIDENCY



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remain high rates of poverty and inequality, and that further investment in social services and economic opportunities are needed in order to reduce them. This Plan of Action must be developed, among others, within the scope of the new financial strategy. In this context, we encourage that allocation criteria take into account other indicators beyond GDP, such as multidimensional poverty. This will provide an improved basis for flexible, targeted and differentiated strategies for effective development cooperation based on their specific country situations and relevant sectorial and regional capacities.

CELAC highlights that appropriate consideration should be given to the special needs and particular challenges of Landlocked Developing Countries, as mandated in Resolutions 69/137 and 69/232.

CELAC Member States stand ready to contribute to the discussions on these issues, which will take place during this session and wish the Co-Facilitators great success.

I thank you.