

**2019 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development  
MIKTA Statement**

*Corrected version*

1. We, the countries of MIKTA (Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey and Australia) make the following joint statement:
2. We reaffirm the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2019 FfD Forum and extend our gratitude to the President of ECOSOC, Amb. Inga Rhonda King, as well as the Co-facilitators of the process, Ambassadors Zappia and Kapambwe. We also express our gratitude to UN-DESA and the Financing for Sustainable Development Office, and to the over 50 agencies that participate in the Inter-Agency Task Force Report.
3. We reaffirm that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which builds on the 2002 Monterrey Consensus and the 2008 Doha Declaration, is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions.
4. MIKTA countries also welcome the holding of formal and informal events in preparation of the ECOSOC FfD Forum, in order to promote dialogue and ambitious consensus, such as the Retreat of the Group of Friends of Monterrey.
5. We recognize that despite signs of progress, investments that are critical to achieving the SDGs remain underfunded, and we call for global and national approaches to sustainable finance. We also call for the coordinated support of international financial institutions (IFIs) for national and global efforts to mobilize the necessary financing to support sustainable development. Despite great progress made, there are many challenges faced by the international community, including the stagnation of growth, rising global risk, inequalities and strains on the multilateral system.
6. We note that the private sector can contribute to the achievement of SDGs in various ways through aligning their business models with SDGs, skills development and innovative solutions. We call on all development actors to facilitate the development of ecosystems to support innovative entrepreneurs to work closely with governments, private sector and civil society to address systemic problems.
7. We reiterate the importance of international cooperation with regards to capacity building for tax collection and the need to strengthen mechanisms for asset recovery, in order to combat illicit financial flows and tax evasion. Distributional aspects of fiscal policy remain a challenge, as well as the need to renew commitments to incorporate gender-budgeting perspectives.

8. We recognize that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement, not a substitute to North-South cooperation. We welcome the outcome of the second United Nations High-level Conference on South-South cooperation. We recognize that ODA is a continuous need for all developing countries, as well as the need to ensure its quality, transparency, effectiveness, and impact on recipient countries' development, according to national priorities. We look forward to the upcoming Senior Level meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, to be held in New York on 13-14 July, 2019, as an opportunity to leverage multistakeholder initiatives.
9. We emphasize that the current challenges to the multilateral trading system could impede the effectiveness of international trade as an engine for development. MIKTA Countries agree on the need to promote a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, with the WTO at its center. We support the necessary reform of the WTO to improve its functioning.
10. We recognize that debt levels are increasing -both public and corporate debt- and that this concerning panorama needs to be addressed in order to mitigate debt cycles. We stress the importance of responsible, transparent borrowing and lending principles, as well as debt restructuring processes. We encourage the international community to strengthen its support for developing countries' efforts to deal with the interrelated challenges of debt and growth in a sustainable way.
11. MIKTA Countries underscore that policy coherence is a priority when addressing systemic and crosscutting issues in order to improve coordination across policy areas such as environment, disaster resilience, among others. Additionally, we believe we need to increase efforts to scale-up climate finance, which remains below expectations.
12. We acknowledge that intellectual property rights foster innovation. There is a need to financially support access to technology for developing countries. Concerning technological changes and their implication for labor markets, we recognize there is a need to invest in lifelong learning and skills-acquisition, taking into consideration its impact on social protection systems. The regulatory gap of Financial Technology (Fintech) should be addressed preemptively, considering that some are becoming increasingly vulnerable (e.g. crypto currencies). We welcome the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the LDCs in Turkey, and we encourage all development partners to provide financial and technical assistance to ensure its full and effective implementation.
13. We underscore the importance of increasing international support for building capacities of the national statistical systems in developing countries in order to collect key data for the follow-up of the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, there is a need for setting quality standards of data, to make it reliable, timely, and accessible, in order to have comparable information that could be useful for policy formulation.

14. MIKTA countries support the idea of connecting global agendas in a more systemic manner, including their means of implementation, and making the FfD Agenda relevant for other processes, including among others: climate change, biodiversity, and urban planning
15. We look forward to the 2019 High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development in September, and we commend Ambassadors Ama Akyaa and Blanchard on their task. We believe the Dialogue will reinvigorate the FfD process and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as a whole. Ambassadors, you can count on the support of the MIKTA countries.
16. MIKTA, as a group of like-minded nations, will continue extolling multilateralism and will working towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Agenda, among other transcendent United Nations outcome documents.