

Third international conference on financing for development

Elements of a draft resolution

Preamble

The Preamble should recall the relevant outcomes of international conferences and major international events on the Financing for Development agenda and Sustainable Development.

The Preamble may also recall GA and ECOSOC resolutions adopted in the context of the financing for development follow-up process since 2002, in particular GA resolution 68/204.

Date

The informal background paper circulated prior to the second meeting of informal consultations outlined some considerations on the timing of the conference. On that basis, two options are discussed:

Option 1: before the Summit on the post-2015 development agenda, no later than by the end of July 2015.

Option 2: in 2016

Duration: The General Assembly will decide on the duration of the conference. As a point of reference, both the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, 2002) and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 2008) took place over five days.

Among other issues, availability of conference facilities in the potential host country, major international events scheduled during the relevant period, and the preparation of the Summit on the post-2015 development agenda should be taken into account in deciding the date and duration of the conference.

Scope

The informal background paper circulated prior to the second meeting of informal consultations outlined some considerations on the scope of the conference.

(a) The scope of the conference is contained in GA resolution 68/204, in its entirety.

(b) Paragraph 40 emphasizes that the “(...) *Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development provide the conceptual framework, including in the context of the post-2015 development agenda, for the mobilization of resources from a variety of sources and the effective use of financing required for the achievement of sustainable development.*”

The conceptual framework of the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration will be based on the following six main chapters:

- (1) Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development

- (2) Mobilizing international resources for development, foreign direct investment and other private flows
- (3) International trade as an engine for development
- (4) Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development
- (5) External debt
- (6) Addressing systemic issues: enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development;

The Doha Declaration also includes a chapter on: “Other new challenges and emerging issues.”

(c) Paragraph 43 of the resolution contains some main areas of focus, as follows:

- (1) assess the progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration and 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;
- (2) address new and emerging issues, including in the context of the recent multilateral efforts to promote international development cooperation, taking into account:
 - the current evolving development cooperation landscape;
 - the interrelationship of all sources of development finance;
 - the synergies between financing objectives across the three dimensions of sustainable development; and
 - the need to support the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015;
- (3) reinvigorate and strengthen the financing for development follow-up process.

Format

The General Assembly decided that the conference will be an international conference.

The conference should be attended at the highest possible level of Member States, including Heads of State and Governments, Ministers of Finance / Foreign Affairs / Development Cooperation.

The Monterrey and Doha Conferences on Financing for Development fostered high-level participation of the international financial and trade institutions and other relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector. In the Monterrey spirit, the third international conference should continue to foster participation of all relevant stakeholders.

Both the preparation of the conference and the conference itself should be an inclusive process, with the full engagement of all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with relevant procedures.

The final outcome of the conference should be an intergovernmentally agreed document.

Organization

Organization of the preparatory process

Member States would consider two different options for the organization of the preparatory process for the conference, including:

Option 1: Preparatory Committee

Under this option, the General Assembly would establish a Preparatory Committee and its Bureau. Each regional group would nominate [x] representatives as members of the Bureau. The General Assembly would also consider the possible ex-officio membership of the host country in the Bureau. The approach could be to have two co-chairs of the Bureau, comprising one from a developed State and one from a developing State. The Bureau will select the co-chairs.

From previous experience, different models should be considered in the type and number of Preparatory Committee meetings to be convened. This could include three sessions. An alternative would be to have two sessions, along with one or more intersessional meetings, among other possibilities.

Option 2: Intergovernmental consultations of the whole

Under this option, the General Assembly would request the President of the General Assembly to continue the intergovernmental consultations of the whole on all issues related to the conference. This process would be led by co-facilitators on behalf of the President of the General Assembly.

The dates of the Intergovernmental consultations could also be set in a resolution and scheduled in advance.

Option 1 was the model chosen for the Monterrey Conference, while option 2 was the preferred model for the Doha Conference.

If Member States prefer option 1, a separate process, selecting members of the Bureau should start immediately after the modality resolution has been decided.

In all scenarios, meetings could be supplemented by a number of substantive informal review sessions and informal consultations on the contents of the outcome document. Based on previous experience, the General Assembly may wish to encourage the regional commissions to hold regional consultations that would serve to provide inputs to the preparation of the conference, with the support of regional development banks and other relevant entities. In addition, multi-stakeholder consultations should be organized, with the support of relevant stakeholders.

Organization of the conference

The organization of the conference could be done based on a note prepared by the Secretary General for the consideration of The General Assembly. Different options may also apply.

Location of the conference

At the first meeting of informal consultations on the third international conference on financing for development (20 March 2014), the Government of Ethiopia offered to host the conference, in accordance with GA resolution 68/204.