



High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development

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New York

“The Monterrey Consensus, Doha Declaration on Financing for Development and related outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits: status of implementation and tasks ahead”

Statement on behalf of EU and its Member States

by

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Mr President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Iceland⁺ and Serbia*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

The EU and its Member States have been monitoring all of their Monterrey commitments – and more – on an annual basis since 2003. The last EU Accountability Report on Financing for

* The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

⁺ Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.

Development, released this July, revealed that good progress had been made towards meeting most of the EU's ambitious commitments. For example, over the last 10 years the EU and its Member States committed almost EUR 45 billion per year to development aid – more than half of the assistance reported by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The EU remains the largest trading partner of developing countries and the market most open to them, and the EU accounted for 71% of global debt relief over the period 2000-2011.

Mr President,

We believe that the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration provide a strong conceptual underpinning upon which to base our future discussions on financing for development. The key intellectual breakthroughs they embody – a comprehensive approach with shared responsibilities – remain relevant today.

However, the world has changed considerably over the last ten years – the distribution of global wealth, countries' ability to influence global trends, the role of emerging donors – so that this conceptual framework needs to be adapted to new circumstances. We have also seen the proliferation of international financing processes and experiences bringing new ways of funding such as those associated with climate or biodiversity finance and other innovative modalities.

Mr President,

At the September MDG Special Event, the international community reiterated its commitment to undertake all efforts towards achieving the MDGs. Here, the focus should be on the most off-track MDGs with particular attention to certain groups of countries such as LDCs, landlocked economies and SIDS. The EU and its Member States remain committed to delivering on our commitments and are focused on helping achieve the MDGs.

The September MDG Special Event also reaffirmed the importance of mobilising and using effectively all resources, public and private, domestic and international, and called for a coherent

approach towards a single post-2015 framework and set of Goals culminating in a Summit in September 2015 for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda.

Looking beyond 2015, it will be important to preserve Monterrey and adapt it to new challenges and circumstances. This framework should be policy-focused – because good policy matters more than money; comprehensive – it should cover all financing sources whether domestic, international, private or public, innovative financing mechanisms as well as tackling illicit flows such as tax evasion; it should be integrated – to make the most out of synergies between different policy goals; flexible and focussed on effective implementation at the country-level; and it should be based on mutual accountability in order to reflect shared responsibilities. Here, it is important to recall that the Monterrey Consensus initiated the global international effectiveness discussions, which are now led by the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation created in Busan in 2011. The Busan effectiveness principles provide an important element to complement the post-2015 discussions on goals, targets and financing.

Mr President,

Let me conclude by underlining the importance the EU and its Member States attach to ensuring that the various strands of work in different fora such as the UN Expert Committee on Sustainable Development Finance, the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals as well as the UN Financing for Development track all come together and contribute to the single post-2015 framework and set of Goals. The challenges are huge. And the means limited. We cannot afford to miss the synergies offered by such an integrated approach.

Thank you.