



Financing for Development – First substantive informal session

17 October 2014

New York

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

[Alignment para]

On behalf of the European Union and its Member States, at the outset let me congratulate you on your re-appointment. Under your leadership we are confident that we will work efficiently and effectively to fulfil the mandate in GA resolution 68/279, leading to a successful outcome in Addis.

We welcome this first substantive informal session, which provides an opportunity for views on the proposed roadmap and on expectations from the third International Financing for Development Conference.

Distinguished co-facilitators,

As rightly highlighted at the outset of the co-facilitators document, 'an ambitious and transformative post-2015 development agenda will require a comprehensive financing framework for sustainable development.' We welcome the Co-facilitators effort to plan for a successful and meaningful conference. The work programme clearly builds on the Monterrey and Doha outcomes and responds to the need for a comprehensive framework for implementing the Post-2015 agenda.

We agree that in preparing for the Addis Conference, we will not only need to assess progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, but also to address new and emerging issues and take into consideration an evolving development cooperation landscape, the interrelationship of all sources of development finance, the synergies

between financing objectives across the three dimensions of sustainable development, as well as the need to support the UN development agenda beyond 2015.

The EU and its Member States remain the world's largest donor, providing more than half of the resources of the OECD Development Assistance Committee. ODA remains an important and catalytic element in the overall financing available for developing countries, in particular to those most in need. However, it has to be taken into account that domestic public resources already exceed international public finance twenty-fold in developing countries as a whole, although it remains weak in some of the poorest countries, and we remain committed to supporting increased domestic resource mobilisation and supporting the capacity of partner countries in the area of taxation.

As was recognised in Monterrey and Doha, further highlighted in the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, it is difficult to separate the financial and non-financial means of implementation, and we congratulate the co-facilitators for having found a good balance in seeking to address all finance and policy aspects of implementation in structuring the sessions. Other actors, beyond states and at multiple levels, are increasingly shaping the world's global context. In order to ensure an inclusive, measurable and realistic implementation strategy for global sustainable development, we support a strengthened global partnership, including broad-based multi-stakeholder partnerships.

We also welcome the grouping of sessions, which would allow participation of experts from relevant ministries in capitals as has been the strong tradition of Monterrey and Doha. We would welcome further guidance from the co-facilitators about how they will ensure the full participation of the international financial institutions, regional development banks and other relevant organisations.

We have some suggestions to streamline the issues under some sessions to avoid duplication and leave more time for more in depth discussions on each issue. Notably;

- o The effective use of all resources is crucial and should be made more explicit in the road map. We propose aid and Development Effectiveness should be included as a systemic issue.

o We are concerned that the discussion on 9-11 December risks duplicating aspects from elsewhere. We propose focussing it on effective institutions and systemic issues. This should include both the domestic and international policy environment, as well as institutions, trade, technology and capacity building. It should explicitly recognise the importance of domestic policies –especially sound macroeconomic policies -as part of a comprehensive approach.

o Finally, we believe that the issue of data and transparency is crucial and deserves greater prominence in the roadmap.

Distinguished co-facilitators,

With these small adjustments, the work programme would give us an even stronger basis to prepare a successful Conference in Addis. In conclusion let me assure you that you can rely on our full support.

Thank you.