

**Statement**

**By**

**Ambassador Tekeda Alemu,  
Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic  
Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations**

**At**

**The First Substantive Informal Session of the  
Preparatory Process for the Third International  
Conference on Financing for Development**

**October 17, 2014  
New York**

**His Excellency the President of the General Assembly**

**His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations,**

**Dear Co-Facilitators,**

Let me start by expressing deep appreciation to our Co-Facilitators — our friends Georg and Geir — for the wonderful contribution they have made so far, and confidence that with their facilitation we would make this process a resounding success. Some might feel that one must be less exuberant given the current global economic situation, particularly the phenomenon in some partner countries on whose resolute and decisive co-operation we count so much.

Dear Co-Facilitators,

The July Third International Conference on Financing for Development is of exceptional significance for us. Therefore, let me thank each and every one of you, your delegations and countries for having given us the opportunity to host the conference. Of course, Addis Ababa is very much used to hosting major conferences and today's Addis Ababa, as many would agree, is a rapidly changing city, therefore even better prepared to host you and make your stay and that of your delegations as comfortable as possible.

Now coming to substantive matters, we are convinced that the draft Road Map and the proposed programme of work is more or less agreeable to us. We thank the facilitators for that.

Let me say one or two things about why we think this upcoming Third International Conference is very critical and really vital. Now it is very clear that without ensuring effective means of implementation, our hope for a transformative post-2015 development agenda would be frustrating. We in Ethiopia believe that the upcoming conference should carry on the work that has begun with the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing to its logical conclusion and commensurate with the significance we attach to the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

For my own country, which has embarked on a major transformative journey and for which resource mobilization has become a major issue, the July Conference is extremely critical. We are hopeful that it would be possible to chart out implementable action plan for the effective implementation of the promises of Monterrey and Doha. In fact what we are looking for is Monterrey plus. Here let me emphasize that commitments already made should be respected and that is the starting point; but we need to go beyond that and be innovative. Domestic resource mobilization is critical but there has to be a realization here to countries such as

Ethiopia who need enormous support to make that a reality. Expanding the tax base and containing illicit outflows are critical.

Let me conclude, Dear Co-Facilitators, by reiterating how much Ethiopia is looking forward to this historic conference and how much eager we are to host you all. I want to assure you we are very much used to making our guests feel at home.

**I Thank you**