



ITALY

**FIRST DRAFTING SESSION ON THE THEME OF
DATA REVOLUTION AS PART OF THE PREPARATORY PROCESS
FOR THE FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT**

STATEMENT FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION

30 January 2015

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY



ITALY 2017 - 2018
Candidate to the
United Nations Security Council



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Distinguished Co-Facilitators,

We align ourselves with the statement delivered by the representative of the EU on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

Italy believes that the provision of reliable data and statistics is an essential aspect of the financing for development and post-2015 means of implementation frameworks. It deserves increased and specific attention. Knowledge about a country situation is fundamental for accurate planning of the use of resources for development. In the context of the Addis Conference, action should be promoted and sustained to substantially strengthen national capacities for data collection and analysis with a focus on generating disaggregated, timely and high-quality data.

We would like to stress the importance of identifying viable indicators for improved measurement of human wellbeing, sustainability of development and multidimensionality of poverty and vulnerability. Indicators will represent an indispensable tool for the best use of the resources available for financing development and for tracking the progress of SDGs. They will represent a critical element in ensuring not only effectiveness but also credibility to the whole post-2015 agenda of which FFD represents a fundamental pillar.

In this context, we praise the valuable work conducted by the Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development created last year on the initiative of the Secretary-General.

Distinguished Co-Facilitators, by providing precious information, data are an essential tool of policymaking. We need to invest in the "data revolution" to enable governments and citizens to take better informed decisions. More generally, information is a formidable tool and our common endeavor should be aimed at ensuring that the "data revolution" is both an instrument of better policymaking and a fundamental leverage of transparency and freedom.

Thank you.