



---

## Preparatory Process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

### **First Drafting Session**

General Discussion – Statement by Switzerland

New York, 29 January 2015

---

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

On behalf of Switzerland, I would like to thank you, the co-chairs, for the stewardship of this process and for the excellent *Elements Paper* you have prepared for our deliberations this week. We believe that the Elements Paper has captured the discussions thus far and provided us with important elements we will need for the zero draft of the Addis Ababa outcome document. My delegation appreciates the opportunity to make general remarks today and to provide more detailed comments later in the sessions on the different building blocks as well as in written form after the end of the week.

The policy options in the annex of the Elements Paper include an array of very useful and valuable policy suggestions for the ambitious integrated financing framework Post-2015 we are striving for. **When consolidating, specifying and concretizing these elements we should all be guided by what is feasible, realistic and what most effectively contributes to sustainable development!**

The building blocks proposed in the Elements Paper provide a good starting point for structuring a future outcome document on **Financing for Sustainable Development**. We also value the fact that monitoring, data and follow-up – as well as synergies with the Post-2015 process – are an important element of the paper. Switzerland is convinced that a suitable monitoring, reporting and review mechanism for financing and other Means of Implementation should be part of the overall monitoring and review framework post-2015.

In our view, the one important aspect the Elements Paper falls somewhat short on is the **integration of the environmental dimension of sustainable development** into the financing framework. On the one hand the interdependence of all three dimensions of sustainable development is not yet reflected in a sufficiently systematic manner. On the other hand the environmental dimension is too narrowly limited to

climate finance, while neglecting other important areas, such as water, biodiversity or chemicals and waste. Furthermore, we also feel that the importance of **Gender equality** should be better reflected across the different building blocks, i.e. by highlighting the implications fiscal policies have on the revenue and expenditure side to reducing inequalities, and in particular gender inequalities.

Distinguished co-chairs,

Without an ambitious and truly universal financing framework, there will be no ambitious and truly universal Post-2015 Agenda. **For Switzerland, the Addis Ababa conference is essentially about defining an overall implementation framework and concretizing the Means of Implementation for the Sustainable Development Goals.** We believe that the Elements Paper covers all important aspects currently summarized under SDG 17 and other goal-specific means of implementation. Addis Ababa gives us the opportunity to go a decisive step further and to develop a more comprehensive, systematic and specific understanding of the means of implementation in the context of Sustainable Development. **Our ambition is that the Outcome of the Addis Ababa conference will form an integral part of the Post-2015 Outcome, and that the Means of Implementation will not be re-negotiated once agreement has been achieved in Addis Ababa.**

Distinguished co-chairs,

In our deliberations this week, let us think about what the conference will be remembered for 15 years from now. For Switzerland, two main headlines should result:

- **First, the Addis Ababa conference can unleash a true Global Partnership for Sustainable Development to achieve the SDGs. This Global Partnership needs to be universal in every sense and should therefore not only include the UN and governments – but also companies, civil society organizations, investors, and individuals all around the world.**
- **Second, Addis Ababa should pave the way for the alignment of investment decisions with sustainable development at all levels, in each country.** We all know that available global savings would be enough to finance the sustainable development goals. However, incentives, policies, rules and regulation often lead to results that are not in line with sustainable development considerations or, in the worst case, actually hamper it. Addis Ababa can change that.

Thank you!