

UK Statement for “introduction” discussion in Financing for Development Conference 1st drafting session – January 27

- Thank you co-facilitators.
- We would like to align ourselves with the remarks made by the European Union on behalf of the EU and its Member States.
- The UK believes that to deliver bold and transformative post-2015 agenda will depend on successful means of implementation that match the ambition of the agenda.
- We think the elements paper sets out a powerful vision within our reach – an integrated policy framework that changes existing patterns, to mobilise all sources of finance – public and private, domestic and international – in an effort shared by all at national and international level.
- We therefore welcome the elements paper as a good basis for discussion:
 - It's comprehensive in scope, embracing all financing sources: public, private, national and international. It effectively integrates policy measures such as trade and technology. It covers the substance of Monterrey as well as the IECSDF report and the means of implementation from the OWG report. We need to maintain and strengthen this balanced approach.
 - The elements papers also reflects the prime importance of policies, regulatory and legal frameworks, These non-financial means of implementation at international, national and sub-national level are critical for success. We hope that our work can develop these important areas more clearly in each of the building blocks – for national and international action.

- The elements paper rightly calls for an effort 'shared by all'. This is a critical part of the post 2015 agenda and reflects its universality. Only effort by all actors at all levels will deliver our collective ambition for this agenda. In that regard we proud to have reached our UN target of 0.7%, and like Sweden, urge others to meet their commitments. We also want to underline the catalytic role of ODA in leveraging other flows.
- We have achieved a lot – but the challenges set out by our co-facilitators make clear that there is more to do.
- The UK stands ready to offer specific ideas in the coming sessions on how the challenges set before us can be met. And we are keen to hear the ideas of others.
- There are many initiatives on the drawing board which - with real ambition and focused effort- can prove transformational. For example, more than 90 countries have signed up to automatically exchanging information about who pays taxes and where. This marks a step change in the ability of revenue authorities to crack down on tax evaders. This sort of global initiative, combined with greater focus on capacity development for national revenue authorities, plus national action on tax system strengthening and regulatory frameworks to combat corruption, can add up to genuine impact.
- This is a serious agenda for change, and we stand ready to make serious progress, reflecting the challenges of the world as it is today.