

**PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

Statement by the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations

Mr. Ib Petersen on behalf of Denmark

**First Drafting Session of the outcome document
of the Third International Conference on
Financing for Development**

Statement for general discussion

28 January 2015

New York

Wednesday, 28 January 2015

Check against delivery

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Thank you for giving me the floor.

First of all, I would like to thank the co-facilitators for the elements paper that we believe accurately reflects the discussion that took place during the preparatory meetings last year. The document constitutes a good basis for the upcoming negotiations. Denmark would like to see an ambitious, forward looking and tangible outcome from Addis that can feed into the post-2015 summit to take place in September this year.

In that context, I would like to align my statement with the statement delivered earlier today by the EU and mention a number of issues that we find are of particular importance.

We would like to highlight three areas, ODA, taxation and role of the private sector, that we find are essential in order to achieve a sustainable outcome from the financing for development conference.

ODA

A comprehensive approach to finance is essential. We should recognise that ODA will continue to be of utmost importance for many developing countries with limited possibilities to mobilise other financial resources and therefore depend on the international community for support. For LDCs, ODA still represents on average 6.2 % of GNI and accounts for over 70% of all external flows. ODA also remains critical in many countries in special situations, including fragile states, SIDS, land locked developing countries.

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ODA is also needed as an important and catalytic factor to allow progress on other aspects of the FfD and post-2015 agendas. ODA can for example be useful to leverage increased private financing flows.

For both reasons a clear commitment to the 0.7% target is needed. For our part, Denmark will continue to meet the UN target of providing 0.7% of GNI to ODA which we have done for the last four decades. Denmark also meets the ODA-target of 0.15 to 0.20% of GNI to the LDCs.

Taxation

Denmark believes that sustainable development is achieved through stronger economies based primarily on achieving increased national resource mobilisation. As outlined in the report from the Expert group on sustainable development financing, a crucial element in that context is transparent tax reforms and better tax collection. Taxes make sense for sustainable development as they at the same time deliver a stable income and reinforce the social contract and leads to increased equality.

Private sector

Another crucial element is the role and the promotion of the private sector in financing for development. Denmark strongly encourages text in the outcome document from the Addis conference building on the agreements achieved in Monterrey and Doha. This includes an enabling environment that attracts national and international private investments. The FfD process needs to bring out the crucial role of the private sector in generating inclusive economic growth, creating decent jobs and ensuring the transition to a green economy.

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Finally – and as already mentioned by other member states, I would like to stress the importance of ensuring strong text on the economic empowerment and inclusion of women in financing for development.

Thank you