

**Statement by Eurodad representative Tove Maria Ryding at the  
First drafting session of the outcome document of the  
Third International Conference on Financing for Development  
New York, January 29, 2015  
Agenda item: General Discussion**

Thank you Mr. Co-facilitator.

First, let me say that we welcome the elements paper, and although we of course have some issues which we believe need to be adjusted, including the structure, we are happy to see that the document, and in particular the annex, has taken us an important step closer to a real negotiating text. This is crucial, because we need to make sure that we don't waste any time.

I want to address the issue of the Global Partnership for Development. We fear that there is a dangerous type of confusion spreading about what we mean by this.

A global partnership for development should be based on the principle of international solidarity as it is enshrined in multiple international instruments, including the Declaration on Human Rights.

This principle recognises that governments are the principal duty-bearers of human rights obligations and that development assistance is essentially a fulfilment of the duty of States to assist other States to fulfil their human rights obligations.

Key elements of a global partnership for development are:

- (i) a development-oriented trade regime;
- (ii) ensuring external debt sustainability;
- (iii) regulating financial markets
- (iv) reforming the international tax system and the international monetary system; and,
- (v) affordable access to technology and medicines for developing countries;
- (vi) ensuring democratic global economic governance

As regards non-state actors, we do find it vital that Governments engage in partnership with CSOs, trade unions, parliaments, local authorities and the private sector. It must be founded on the principles of democratic ownership with full engagement of all stakeholders, with specific attention to traditionally excluded stakeholder groups, including gender-based exclusion.

It must be based on transparency and accountability.

When it comes to public private partnerships, governments must establish governance, transparency and accountability systems before any such partnership is carried out and there must be clear criteria to determine whether a specific private sector actor is fit for a public private partnership.

However, we want to underline that the Global partnership between governments must remain the central element.

We have to ensure that this type of partnership is not being confused to only mean partnerships with the private sector. If the obligation of governments to work together and

solve global problems is suddenly phased out in favour of a new focus on public private partnerships, and if old commitments to support each other are ignored and forgotten, we will undermine the very backbone of multilateralism and the global cooperation among states, which is so vital for achieving sustainable development.

We find that the Elements paper conceptualises partnerships in a very narrow sense and we find that this needs to be corrected.