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

### **First Drafting Session**

New York, 29 January 2015

Swiss Statement – International Public Finance

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Distinguished Co-Facilitators,

The Elements Paper clearly presents the evidence on how international financing has changed dramatically since Monterrey and Doha and we all know that **other sources of cross-border finance have grown at a much faster pace than ODA in the past 15 years.**

**Let's be clear: the role of ODA remains critical and central in the pursuit of sustainable development!** ODA targets the poorest people in a way other sources of external and domestic finance cannot and it is

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more poverty sensitive and counter cyclical than any other sources of finance.

To reach the goal of ending poverty everywhere, more progress can be made in targeting ODA to where needs are biggest. **Switzerland supports measures to better target ODA to countries most in need including LDCs and lower middle income countries and in particular countries affected by conflict**, as these countries highly depend on ODA and have limited access to other sources of finance. In this regard, we also strive to develop measures to progressively increase the share of Swiss ODA to LDCs.

However, as the Elements Paper states prominently, ODA will be nowhere near sufficient to finance the ambitious and universal Post-2015 agenda we are all striving for. Therefore, the Addis Ababa outcome will have to show **how ODA can be used in a smart way to leverage other sources of financing for sustainable development**, both public and private at domestic and international levels. This may require a review of the way development actors operate and how they are applying different financing instruments. Moreover, the development effectiveness agenda forged in Monterrey and further developed in Paris, Accra and Busan

which has helped improve the quality of ODA needs to be completed. We also need to ensure increased coherence and strengthened linkages of ODA to all three pillars of sustainable development including climate finance.

Finally, let me conclude with a more political thought: out of the more than 190 countries that will be attending the Addis Ababa conference, only 30 are what used to be called classic ODA donor countries and only another roughly 40 countries are recipients of large shares of ODA. The vast majority of countries, however, falls in neither of these categories which shows that if a renewed Global Partnership is too narrowly focused on ODA we will miss out more than half the world's countries and their people. **We therefore need to agree on a true Global Partnership where the majority of the world's countries are fully engaged!**

Thank you!