



*Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Benin
to the United Nations*



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

15 March 2016

Excellency,

As you know, the President of the Economic and Social Council, in his letter dated 25 February 2016, appointed us as co-facilitators to prepare the draft conclusions and recommendations of the 2016 inaugural ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up, and facilitate consultations among Member States with a view to reaching intergovernmental agreement on this draft.

In discharging our mandate, we will convene the first informal consultation on the above subject at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 23 March 2016, in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. During this first meeting, delegations will have an opportunity to provide their views on the desired content and format of conclusions and recommendations of the Forum, as well as modalities for reaching the intergovernmental agreement.

In this regard, we propose to consider the following guiding questions in our discussion:

- (1) What is the major purpose of the outcome document and how can it promote the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda?
- (2) How can we ensure the outcome document provides a meaningful input into the overall follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development?
- (3) To what extent can the outcome document effectively address major progress, implementation gaps and recommendations for corrective action in implementing the financing for development outcomes, while taking into consideration the national and regional dimensions? How should the recommendations from the Inter-agency Task Force report feed into the outcome document?
- (4) How can the outcome document reaffirm the most critical dimensions of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, as the means of implementation for the Sustainable Development Goals?

To All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York

(5) Should the outcome document provide guidance on the dates, modalities and substantive focus of future Forums on Financing for Development follow-up?

We, on our part, will outline our approach and roadmap for preparing the draft of the document and reaching the agreement. Basic points will include:

- Zero draft of conclusions and recommendations to be prepared by co-facilitators taking into account views of Member States expressed in the first informal consultation;
- Conclusions and recommendations to take the form of a concise statement (1-3 pages);
- Zero draft to be circulated to Member States for written comments and subsequently revised;
- Consultations of the whole membership to be held at an appropriate time, with a view to reaching an agreement on the draft in advance of the Forum.

We count on your active participation in and support to this process.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Jean-Francis Regis Zinsou
Permanent Representative of Benin
to the United Nations



Vladimir Drobnyak
Permanent Representative of Croatia
to the United Nations