

2016 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up  
***Interactive dialogue with intergovernmental bodies of major institutional stakeholders***  
***“Fostering policy coherence in the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA)”***  
Monday, 18 April 2016, 3-6 PM, Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations, New York

**Programme**

**Opening remarks:**

- H.E. Mr. Oh Joon, President of ECOSOC (Republic of Korea)
- Mr. Merza Hasan, Dean of the Board of Executive Directors, World Bank Group
- Mr. Aleksei Mozhin, Dean of the Board of Executive Directors, IMF
- H.E. Mr. Alfredo Suescum A. (Panama), President, Trade and Development Board, UNCTAD

**Moderator: Ms. Eliza Anyangwe**, Guardian/CNN

**Lead discussants:**

*Coherence in implementation of the AAAA*

- Mr. Matthew McGuire, Executive Director for the United States, World Bank Group
- Mr. Serge Dupont, Chair, Executive Board Committee for Liaison with the World Bank, the United Nations and other International Organizations; Executive Director for Canada, Ireland and the Caribbean region member states, IMF
- H.E. Mr. Héctor Alejandro Palma Cerna (Honduras), Vice-President of ECOSOC

*Interactive dialogue*

*Humanitarian and development nexus*

- Ms. Satu Santala, Executive Director for Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden, World Bank Group
- H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber (Switzerland), Vice-President of ECOSOC

*Interactive dialogue*

**Closing remarks:** H.E. Mr. Oh Joon, President of ECOSOC (Republic of Korea)

**Background Note**

**A. Objective**

The dialogue is intended to engage representatives of UN Member and Observer States including UN Ambassadors and intergovernmental representatives of major institutional stakeholders of the FfD process in a focused exchange of views on coherent implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) and the means of implementation (MoI) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To this end, the representatives of intergovernmental bodies will be invited to share lessons learned, ongoing initiatives, as well as planned action by their respective institutions to promote policy coherence in the implementation of the two Agendas, in accordance with their respective mandates.

**B. Background**

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) specifies that one of the days of the new ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up will be the Special high-level meeting with Bretton Woods Institutions (BWIs), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Over the years, the special role and strong reputation of the above meeting as a platform for an engagement between the United Nations, BWIs and other major institutional stakeholders of the Financing for Development (FfD) process has been widely accepted and appreciated by the relevant stakeholders. In particular, one of the identifying features of that meeting has been the dialogue between UN Ambassadors and intergovernmental representatives of these institutional stakeholders. Responding to expressions of mutual interest by these stakeholders, an attempt is made at the inaugural FfD Forum to intensify the exchange of views between the respective intergovernmental bodies in the form of an interactive dialogue.

Promoting coherence has been at the heart of the FfD outcomes. The 2002 Monterrey Consensus recognized the urgent need to enhance coherence, governance, and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, in order to complement national development efforts.

The 2008 Doha Declaration resolved to strengthen the coordination of the United Nations system and all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions to support economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development worldwide, based on a clear understanding and in line with their respective mandates and governance structures.

Through the AAAA, Heads of State and Government further committed to taking measures to improve and enhance global economic governance and to arrive at a stronger, more coherent and more inclusive and representative international architecture for sustainable development, while respecting the mandates of respective organizations.

Progress has been made in enhancing cooperation among major institutional stakeholders towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). At the policy level, there was enhanced policy dialogue and action around support for the follow-up to Monterrey and MDG 8. There has also been increased cooperation between the United Nations and the BWIs, in particular in countries emerging from conflicts and complex emergencies.

Continued efforts are also being extended towards coherent follow-up to AAAA and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17. The Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) on FfD was established and delivered its first report in support of the follow-up to FfD outcomes and the MoI of SDGs. The IATF brings together relevant international organizations in the review of the implementation of AAAA and the MoI of the 2030 Agenda. Ahead of the Addis Conference, joint initiatives were launched and brought together relevant actors in specific areas. If effectively implemented, those initiatives could catalyze joint action and coordination. For example, the World Bank and the IMF launched a Joint Initiative to Support Developing Countries in Strengthening Tax Systems. There are also renewed attempts towards coordinated support to countries in post-conflict or post-crisis situations in their transition from relief to long-term development. The WB/IMF Development Committee is set to discuss this particular issue in relation to their institutional mandates.

During the recent visit of the ECOSOC Bureau to the Executive Boards of the World Bank and IMF, there emerged strong mutual desire to intensify the interaction and dialogue between the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations, World Bank and IMF. This dialogue offers an opportunity for intergovernmental bodies of major institutional stakeholders to share lessons learned as well as actions envisaged for coherent follow-up to FfD outcomes. It will also provide ideas on how to strengthen exchange and interaction among intergovernmental bodies of institutional stakeholders.

### **C. Issues and guiding questions**

The following questions can be considered as basis for the dialogue:

1. Major institutional stakeholders pursued collaboration in the implementation of MDG 8, the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration. What lessons have been learned? What were the challenges encountered? Can the actions, initiatives, mechanisms and arrangements that proved effective be replicated in the implementation of the AAAA and the Mol of SDGs?
2. The AAAA addressed several specific actions to major institutional stakeholders. What early actions have been taken in these areas and what further steps are envisaged? What could be the priority action areas and policy initiatives that have the potential to yield immediate and tangible results to foster coherence?
3. Supporting the transition of countries in conflict and post-conflict situations from relief to economic, financial and social stability and longer-term development has increasingly become an important challenge for the work of the United Nations, as well as the World Bank and the IMF. What have been the main results of deliberations at the Executive Boards of the World Bank and IMF?
4. The ECOSOC FfD forum offers a primary platform for exchange among major institutional stakeholders in particular their intergovernmental bodies. What can be done to further the exchange among intergovernmental bodies of major institutional stakeholders in the preparatory process of the future forums?

#### **D. Format**

The dialogue will be chaired by the President of ECOSOC and moderated by a professional moderator.

It will consist of an opening (15 minutes), brief remarks by six lead discussants (5-7 minutes each) setting the stage, followed by a moderated interactive dialogue. In order to make the dialogue as interactive as possible, each intervention should not exceed 3 minutes and no written statements should be read.

After the interactive discussion, the President of ECOSOC will formally close the dialogue.

#### **E. Seating**

All participants will be seated on the floor, with Executive Directors and other intergovernmental representatives of major institutional stakeholders seated on one side of the inner horseshoe circle of the Chamber and representatives of UN Member and Observer States, including the Members of the ECOSOC Bureau and other UN Ambassadors who have indicated interest to speak in advance, on the other side of that horseshoe circle. Other participating Member States will be seated by usual order as assigned by the Conference Services.