

2016 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up
Round Table A
A global framework for financing sustainable development
Tuesday, 19 April 2016, 10 - 11 AM, Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations, New York

Tentative Program

- Chair:** H.E. Mr. Ahmed Shide, State Minister of Finance and Economic Cooperation, Ethiopia
- Moderator:** Mr. David Nabarro, Special Adviser on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Panellists:** Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director, Strategic Partnerships, Coordination and Intergovernmental Support Bureau, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
Ms. Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General, Natural Resources, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- Lead Discussant:** Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Director, Social Protection, International Labour Organization (ILO)

(followed by informal exchange of views among participants)

Background Note

The objective of the Round Table is to: (1) take stock of commitments and actions contained in the introduction and other cross-cutting areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (the Addis Agenda) and the related means of implementation (MoIs) of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); (2) review early actions taken towards implementation of the relevant provisions, as well as voluntary initiatives put forward at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13-16 July 2015); (3) identify obstacles and bottlenecks that impede policy action; and (4) discuss the monitoring and assessment framework, building on the report of the Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) on Financing for Development.

Cross-cutting initiatives and commitments in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda

The Addis Agenda puts forth a comprehensive set of policy actions, with a package of hundreds of concrete measures to finance sustainable development, transform the global economy and achieve sustainable development and the SDGs. It provides a new global framework for financing sustainable development that aligns all financing flows and policies with economic, social and environmental priorities and ensures that financing is stable and sustainable.

In this endeavour, the Addis Agenda aims to mobilize public finance, set appropriate public policies and regulatory frameworks to unlock private finance, trade opportunities and technological development, and incentivize changes in consumption, production and investment patterns. It further seeks to align all resource flows and policies with economic, social and environmental priorities. It covers the full range of financial and non-financial means of implementation: public and private, domestic and international financing flows, public policies and regulatory frameworks, technology, capacity building, and the international enabling environment.

As a comprehensive and broad framework, the Addis Agenda includes all of the MoIs of the SDGs. Nonetheless, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Agenda have different structures, which can make it difficult to track similar targets across the two agendas. In particular, while the 2030

Agenda is organized around the SDGs, or around goals and outcomes, the Addis Agenda follows the Monterrey Consensus, and is structured around different financial and non-financial Mols.

As emphasized in the Addis Agenda, the 17 SDGs have enormous synergies across goals, with implementation of one contributing to progress in the others. Similarly, there are synergies across the Addis chapters, as well as between the Addis Agenda and the SDGs. To further harness these synergies, the Addis Agenda identifies a number of cross-cutting issues where policy actions can address critical gaps in the delivery of a range of SDGs. These cross-cutting issues and commitments, as contained in chapter I of the Addis Agenda, include: (i) the delivery of social protection and essential public services for all; (ii) scaling up efforts to end hunger and malnutrition; (iii) closing the infrastructure gap including establishing the Global Infrastructure Forum; (iv) promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization; (v) generating full and productive employment and decent work for all; (vi) protecting ecosystems; (vii) promoting peaceful and inclusive societies. It also addresses such issues as gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; children and youth; countries in special situations; and the global partnership for sustainable development. Each of these initiatives can contribute to progress across a large number of SDGs.

Chapter 1 of the IATF report (<http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/2016-IATF-Chapter1.pdf>) presents proposals for monitoring the implementation of the above cross-cutting issues and commitments in the future years. The main findings of the report are highlighted in the Note by the Secretary-General on Monitoring commitments and actions in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development (E/FFDF/2016/1).

Guiding questions:

- 1. What concrete measures have countries taken to address the gender equality and women's rights commitments contained in the Addis Agenda? How are Member States monitoring the impact of these initiatives?*
- 2. It has been suggested that the ECOSOC Forum on FfD Follow-up could serve as an institutional home for further exploration of coherent funding modalities for the social compact, both in terms of nationally appropriate spending targets and international support, as well as complementary new innovative sources of finance for education, health, housing, social protection and water. What are Member States' views on using this Forum for this purpose in future years?*
- 3. The Addis Agenda clearly indicates that action needs to be taken by all stakeholders in order to achieve objectives across all seven action areas, as well as across the SDGs. How can the global partnership for sustainable development most effectively support the implementation of an integrated and holistic agenda on financing for development? How do Member States envision enhancing and revitalizing the global partnership?*