

**Statement by Ambassador Neil Briscoe  
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- The UK welcomed the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda last year. We, the international community, have set ourselves a challenge, but one we must and can achieve: a challenge of ambitious commitments across a range of areas, from more effective ways to combat illicit finance through a new social compact, which will ensure that social protection systems leave no-one behind.
- The Agenda saw signatories reaffirm the commitments made by ODA providers to meet the 0.7% ODA/GNI target. The UK has met the target, and has enshrined it in law. Our \$1.5bn annual spend on Aid for Trade supports countries to establish lasting and effective relationships with actors across supply chains, and our \$1.5bn Ross Fund will enable us to find innovative ways to prevent infectious diseases and respond to future crises. It is through maintaining ODA at a consistent level that the UK is able to commit to these innovative and forward looking projects, and we urge other countries to do the same.
- But, as we know, ODA alone will not be enough to meet the ambitious Global Goals, and it is right that the Agenda emphasises mobilising other forms of capital. There is already significant work underway in this area: the UK has increased the capital available to CDC Group to invest in businesses and create jobs in the world's poorest places. We welcome the interest of the private sector and must continue our efforts to mobilise private capital towards the aims of the AAAA and the Global Goals.
- So, we need to sustain the momentum, and it is heartening to see the evolution of our work since the Global Goals were adopted. The Global Infrastructure Forum, the Addis Tax Initiative, and the rich and constructive discussions in this Forum are just a few examples showing us the way forward. We have made a promising start in taking forward this agenda, but there is much more work to do.