

Statement by Ambassador OH, Young-ju

The Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea

Fifth Committee of the 71st Session of the General Assembly

Item 134: Proposed Programme Budget; biennium 2016-2017, Supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

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Thank you, Madame Chair,

1. At the outset, I would like to thank Dr. David Nabarro, Special Adviser on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) for introducing their respective reports on this agenda item.

Madame Chair,

2. Let me repeat our strong support for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Addis Ababa Action Agenda adopted last year. I also reiterate our commitment to contribute the implementation of the ambitious goals as one of major financial contributors as well as a Member State of the UN. A year has already passed since the UN adopted 2030 agenda. First of all, I would like to emphasize the importance of implementation of the agenda by Member States and the UN in a timely manner. To this end, this session would be the right time for the 5th committee to make a decision on the adequate resource allocation for the effective implementation of the agenda. I suggest all Member States to be open-minded and compromising to reach the agreement on this matter within this session.

3. With regards to budget proposal on the 2030 Agenda, I firstly welcome and appreciate the Secretary-General's report before us, which is more readable and well-organized than previous reports. I will take this opportunity to express our views on this issue in upcoming negotiation. The responsibility for implementation of the agenda lies on Member States and whole UN entities. Therefore, the roles and activities of each entity should be well-defined and distinguished. The use of regular budget should be limited to the implementation of the Secretariat's mandate approved by General Assembly. My delegation will closely examine whether budget appropriation is based on the clear mandate of the Secretariat.

Turing to the resources for implementation on the 2030 agenda, the General Assembly authorized 7.5 million dollars for 2016 to enter into commitment last year. We will explore the relevance of resources for 2017 in comparison with the actual expenditure in 2016. More importantly, we have concerns on the Secretariat's request on the resources to the Development Account and the regular program of technical cooperation. I admit that the UN should play a role to assist the developing countries' capacity building for the successful implementation of SDGs. However, current SG's proposal has not provided sufficient information on project types and selection criteria, how to disburse the resources, oversight mechanism and possible duplications with UN funds and program's activities. In this context, my delegation basically concurs with the Advisory committee's recommendation and will seek for the clarification on the details of request in the informal discussions.

Madame Chair,

4. In conclusion, I reiterate that the successful implementation of the 2030 agenda is our top priority and my delegation assures you of our readiness to engage in this issue in a constructive manner so that the committee can conclude this item in this session.

I thank you, Madame Chair.