



FfD- Israel's comments on the zero draft.

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Dear All,

With apologies for the one day delay - I'm sending here Israel's comments regarding the zero draft.

Best,
Hadas

Distinguished co-facilitators,

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for the successful conclusion of the second drafting session and to express our appreciation for your ongoing efforts. In this regards, Israel would like to submit the following comments on the zero draft-

1) Israel perceives the FfD and post 2015 processes to be directly linked and therefore welcomes coherence and synergies between the two processes. In order to avoid duplication and redundancy, we believe that there should be a single track for negotiations on the MoI, which should be held as part of the FfD discussions. The outcome of the FfD process should therefore be part and parcel of the Post 2015 Development agenda and **serve as the Means of Implementation pillar of the post-2015.**

2) Second, we believe it is important to highlight the important **link between gender equality, women empowerment and employment**, which still constitutes a major barrier for many women's economic development. Therefore, we would like to suggest to include a reference to decent work under para 6, as follows: "We reaffirm that gender equality and women's empowerment are essential to achieve equitable and effective sustainable growth and development. We reiterate the need for gender mainstreaming in the formulation and implementation of financial and economic policies and agree to implement transformative actions to ensure women's equal rights, access and opportunities for participation, **increased opportunities for entrepreneurship and decent work** and leadership in the economy.

3) Third, we would like to strengthen the reference to **youth** by incorporating the following language under the section dealing with Domestic and International Private Business and Finance (we propose as a 42bis, but are flexible on the exact placement) : "We commit to address the urgent challenge of youth employment by supporting the development of global, regional, and national strategies to promote decent work for youth, including measures in the areas of skills for employment, apprenticeships, entrepreneurship, labour market policies, social protection and labour rights. We call on business, labour, foundations, philanthropists and civil society to support these efforts

4) Finally, referring to the suggestion made by the G77 to expand the listing of countries in special situations as appears in paragraph 8, we would like to stress that we do not find the suggestion to be relevant to our current discussion, nor does it have any prior reference in the Monterrey or Doha outcomes, on which this document is based. Furthermore, we are extremely concerned that introducing non-consensual language might interfere with the important work underway and turn the constructive discussion into a political debate.

We would like to reiterate Israel's ongoing commitment to the Finance for Development process

and look forward to your continued leadership and guidance.

Best regards,

Hadas Meitzad

Permanent mission of Israel to the UN

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