The Addis Ababa Accord of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

Statement

by

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Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to address this distinctive forum which, I am certain, will reaffirm strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and to create an enabling environment at all levels for achieving sustainable development.

I would like to commend the co-facilitators of the intergovernmental negotiations on the outcome document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, Permanent Representatives of Guyana and Norway to the United Nations in New York, for their dedication and able guidance towards achieving remarkable outcome.

Mr. President,

Fully cognizant of the significant overall progress in the world since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus, many countries, in particular developing countries, are facing considerable challenges due to the impact of financial and economic crisis, as well as existing inequalities and discrimination practices. Therefore, Addis Ababa conference represents a timely opportunity to agree on enhancing efforts across all the financing channels for sustainable development, in an integrated manner, towards the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.

Mr. President,

If we are to have a new vision in implementing the future post-2015 development agenda, Addis Ababa needs to produce ambitious, meaningful and comprehensive agreements on financing. This should be underpinned by effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, sound policies and good

governance at all levels. Moreover, it is of the utmost importance that financing framework must be complement and supportive to the post-2015 development framework and should address all three dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced and integrated way. It is crucial time to reach agreement on the issues of financing, taxes, illicit financial flows, domestic resource mobilization, and the role of private sector in order to turn development to a sustainable path. In achieving this, commitments from all according to the national capabilities are needed.

Future transformative post-2015 development agenda, that is going to be adopted at the Summit in September this year, requires the mobilization and effective use of all relevant means of implementation by all actors. In this regard, outcome document of the Addis Ababa Conference should be comprenhensive and address the whole range of means of implementation required for the post-2015 agenda. Nevertheless, we believe that the outcome document of the Addis Ababa conference will contribute to defining the overarching concept of a new global partnership for the entire post-2015 agenda. The engagement in this regard should build on shared responsibility, national capacities and circumstances respective and accountability mechanisms. Such partnership should include wide range of different stakeholders, including private sector, civil society, philanthropic organisations, international financial institutions and other major actors.

Mr. President,

We believe that primary responsibility for development lies within national states and, in this regard, we strongly support promoting national ownership. National sustainable development strategies, enhanced by integrated national financing frameworks, must be supported by an enabling international economic environment. Promoting universal, rule based, transparent, predictable, inclusive and equitable multilateral trading system undert the WTO, which will enhance lon-term investment in productive capacitites, is an engine for achiving inclusive growth and poverty reduction, as well as productive employment and decent work for all. Promoting cooperation in science, technology and innovation can foster progress in achieving sustainable development. In that context, we support enhancing regional and international scientific, technological and innovation cooperation. Knowledge sharing and development data are also important. We recognize capacity building as important mean to implementing sustainable development.

We support strengthening the domestic resources mobilization, including by improving tax collection, efficiency of public spending and reducing corruption, illicit financial flows and tax evasions. Improving the ability of

developing countries to harness and channel their domestically generated finance for domestic investment through more effective cooperative actions against illicit capital flows and tax evasion is also important. We support strengthening regulatory framework and enabling environment at all levels, necessary to harness the potential of multi-stakeholder partnerships and private entrepreneurship, as important drivers for achieving sustainable development.

In our view, ODA will remain an important part of the development financing in many countries, especially LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, as well as sectors most in need. However, we are of the view that full realization of post-2015 development agenda will require mobilization of additional financial resources from multiple sources, especially non-public ones. Cooperative and innovative ways of raising additional finance for development must be taken into account. As an example of alternative financing model for achieving some of the SDGs, Government of Montenegro, together with UNICEF, is in the process of expanding early childhood education in Montenegro. In order to achieve this goal, no additional budgetary allocations will be needed, only minimal capital investments, while preschool institutions will be able to manage to collect 80% of potential parents' contribution. As a result of this intervention, we will not only able to include all children in quality ECE programmes - but also the system would be able to create savings that used for professional development of teachers, improvement measures, maintenance of existing infrastructure, adaptation of primary school facilities for preschool, etc.

Mr. President,

The most essential element for a truly transformative post-2015 agenda is its effective implementation. Universal development agenda must be underpinned by universal monitoring, accountability and review which should seek to build on and improve existing mechanisms, rather than set up parallel processes, and combine with national ownership for the implementation of the commitments. Effective monitoring, review and accountability depend on reliable data that can be compared between countries and/or regions as well as on introduction and monitoring of the specific targets and indicators for each sustainable development goal. Means of Implementation (MoI) for post-2015 agenda should be an integral part of a universal and forward-looking new Global Partnership.

Mr. President,

2015 will be a landmark year for the global fight against poverty and a sustainable future. Thus, it is more important than ever to translate our words into action.

We believe in potentials and capacities of the United Nations, strengthened by active participation and strong contribution of each member state, to find adequate responses and take actions aimed at reforming the global financing system to allow the achievement of sustainable development. I assure you that Montenegro will continue to give its strong support to the efforts of the international community to shape our ability to bring about a just, equitable world in which the rights of all peoples, including future generations, are fully respected and protected.

Thank you for your attention.