

Translated from Arabic

Sudan

Draft address of the First Vice-President of the Republic of the Sudan to the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

Addis Ababa, 13-16 July 2015

In the name of God, the Merciful and Compassionate

Your Excellency, President Hailemariam Desalegn,
Kings, Heads of State and Prime Ministers,
Heads of delegations,
Secretary-General of the United Nations,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Distinguished guests,

At the outset, it is a pleasure for me to extend warm congratulations to you and to the officers of the Conference on the occasion of your election as chair of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. I am confident that your wisdom, experience and knowledge will help make this conference the success we are striving for.

It is a source of happiness and pride to us that the Third International Conference on Financing for Development is being held in our continent of Africa and I extend grateful thanks and appreciation to you, Mr. President, and the Ethiopian people for your generous hosting of the Conference and the participating delegations. We greatly appreciate your efforts in preparing for and organizing this splendid conference.

Furthermore, I cannot omit congratulating the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his assistants for their efforts in making such excellent arrangements for the Conference.

Mr. President,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Our Conference convenes in the shadow of critical international circumstances and under the enormous impact of challenges produced by the events of the 15 years since our adoption of the Millennium Development Goals. Our Conference acquires particular importance in view of its relationship to the sustainable development goals and post-2015 development agenda agreed by Member States during consultations in the past few months preceding the Conference and which we hope will be adopted by the heads of State and prime ministers at their meeting scheduled for the end of this coming September in New York. As such, the opportunity to adopt a new development agenda depends upon the success of our Conference in producing robust and practical recommendations, particularly in the area of essential

means of financing, and building global partnerships to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve the new agenda in the coming phase.

Mr. President,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Distinguished guests,

The conspicuous discrepancy in today's world between rich and poor countries has become a key factor limiting the ability of the United Nations to respond to changes and new structural and objective realities essential to strengthening implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and achieve the desired progress in respect of the Sustainable Development Goals.

For us in the Sudan, this discrepancy has been compounded by other factors, primarily continuing repercussions of the secession of South Sudan in 2011, made necessary by the need to put an end to the decades-long civil war, the economic impact of which was enormous. The Sudan bore all the financial and economic obligations alone, without help from the international community. Add to this the continuing external debt burden, despite all the terms of debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative having been met, and the unrelenting imposition of unilateral economic sanctions upon us since 1997. Nevertheless, through an inclusive national dialogue that excludes no-one, we are continuing our efforts to unify national ranks and achieve peace and political and economic stability everywhere in the country, as well as to strengthen cooperative and constructive partnership relationships with fraternal and friendly States and international and regional financial institutions. In this context, we emphasize that the Sudan's vast and diverse natural resources, which include water, agricultural land, woodland, livestock, fisheries and mineral and oil reserves, qualify it to play a part in fighting hunger, reducing poverty and feeding its own people as well as the peoples of neighbouring African and Arab regions.

Mr. President,

Ladies and gentlemen,

In conclusion, I am pleased to note that the agreement we shall reach at this Conference will offer an inclusive and forward-looking framework. We trust that the measures which have been set out for financing development and providing the means of its implementation will be honoured by our partners. In our opinion, entitling the concluding document to be issued by the conference the "Addis Ababa Accord" represents a qualitative leap forward in terms of the obligations between Member States and sends a message of hope that these will be met in the forthcoming phase, thereby strengthening national efforts to pave the way for a secure and better future for coming generations.

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for your kind attention.
