



Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
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ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development

Statement by:

**H.E. Ato Admasu Nebebe, State Minister of Finance and Economic
Cooperation**

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UN- HQ, New York**

Mr. President,

It's an honor for me to join this gathering on the second Financing for Development Forum after a full year of implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to take stock of our progress and achievements so far, and chart the way forward. I thank the President for convening this Forum. I also express my appreciation to the co-facilitators-the Permanent Representatives of South Africa and Belgium- who have successfully led the negotiation process of the Forum.

Mr. President,

Ethiopia remembers 2015 as one of its great moments. It had the great opportunity for contributing to and playing an active role in bringing the world together to make historic decisions resulting in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and its deliverables for Financing for Development. That achievement is, no doubt, key for the realization of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

This Forum affords us the opportunity to inform each other on the progress we are making with the view to benefiting from the successes we have registered and challenges we have encountered and accordingly, to adjust our gear for accelerated implementation of SDGs in the years to come. In this regard, though it is not up the high ambition of the Addis Agenda, and cognizant of the current political reality, Ethiopia welcomes the Final Text of the Co-facilitators as inter-governmentally negotiated substantive outcome of the Forum.

The 2017 Interagency task force report has carried out an excellent examination of the national and international efforts for the implementation of the AAAA, along with an overview of the global context and its implications on development finance. I thank members of the taskforce for the excellent report.

As outlined in the report, indeed, national and international actors have taken key measures to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and deliver on their commitments for the achievement of our 2030 Agenda. Yet, it is also clearly noted that the current trajectory would not allow us to meet our targets by 2030.

In this regard, it is imperative to take concerned, coordinated and urgent global action to reverse the existing trajectory and create an enabling international environment for the full implementation of the Addis and 2030 Agendas. It is our firm conviction that it is high time to further revitalize global partnership and solidarity not to miss the historical opportunity of ending poverty in all its dimensions.

Mr. President,

In Ethiopia, we are implementing the SDGs by integrating them in our national development plan. We have also designed and started execution of a comprehensive national Action Plan to implement the Addis Agenda. Prepared with the full participation of all government agencies as well as our development partners, the Action Plan is centered in mobilizing domestic resources by modernizing our tax administration system, by creating business-friendly climate to increase FDI and by enhancing the role of the private sector in the economy as an engine of economic growth. Aligned with our policy objectives of creating jobs and diversifying the economy, the Action Plan is focused on advancing structural transformation through inclusive and sustainable industrialization. The Plan also identifies specific roles of our development partners, including in areas of technology transfer and financing development. We believe the Action Plan would contribute for the implementation of the Addis Agenda in our national context.

Let me stress one important point here. As a country we seriously believe that developing countries should take the primary responsibility for their own development. However, it must also be stressed how ODA is important, especially for the least developing countries. However, during the last one and half years there is a tendency of shifting focus by developed countries more to domestic issues and corresponding shift on ODA allocations and disbursements. In additions, climate finances are becoming more complicated to be accessed and those accessed are also at small scale which is not helpful for achieving the transformative agenda of SDGs by countries.

To conclude, Mr. President, the FFD Forum provides an important opportunity for all development actors to identify the state of the implementation of the Addis Agenda and recommit to accelerate its full operationalization. Therefore, we strongly believe that all members and stakeholders should continue to work together with an enhanced political determination and constructive spirit to ensure the continued success of the Forum.