

Statement for Financing for Development forum

Thursday, April 24, 2018 5:00-6:00 p.m. (TBC)

Venue: Trusteeship Council

Madame President

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the Inter-agency Task Force Team (IATF) for producing the 2018 Report, which is a rich resource to help accelerate inter-agency collaboration and partnerships on financing for development.

Let me also say that Jordan aligns itself with the statements delivered by Egypt on behalf of the group of G77 and China

Madam President,

We are all committed to implement the 2030 Agenda, but we still need an ambitious financing plan to translate the SDGs into implementable actions and results. This itself is a major challenge for both the international community and recipient countries, as the cost of achieving these commitments far exceeds current ODA levels which must be sustained (*if not increased*), not only for LDCs but also for vulnerable middle-income countries.

Gaps in development, require deeper and more coordinated partnerships from national governments, donors, multilateral institutions, the private sector and civil society organizations to jointly work to bridge development gaps and achieve the ambitious SDGs goals.

Madam President,

The Middle East is experiencing significant political, economic and social upheavals, which have generated a number of humanitarian crises and dramatically increased human suffering and vulnerability. The Syrian crisis is the most complex and protracted facing Jordan today.

Hosting over 1.3 million Syrians in Jordan has heavily impacted Jordan's fiscal position, exacerbating pressure on public finances, increasing government expenditure on subsidies for bread, water, electricity, and gas, and further inflating the budget deficit.

Not to mention the cost of humanitarian and resilience interventions, and accounts for the additional expenditures on education, healthcare, subsidies, as well as income losses borne by the Government since the beginning of the crisis.

The Addis Agenda recognized the centrality of coherent developmental and humanitarian financing to manage and mitigate emergencies and crisis by using innovative financing methods.

Jordan is working with our key donors, IFIs (International Finance Institutions), and UN Agencies, to meet the refugee challenge and also to present a model in dealing with the refugee crisis. And as a beneficiary of the Concessional Financing Facility (CFF) initiative of the World Bank to Address Refugee Crises in Middle Income Countries, Jordan calls for strengthening and sustaining the eligibility criteria for vulnerable middle-income countries to access more development assistance and cheaper and innovative financing. This can be done by Providing preferential concessional terms for accessing untapped funds, Swapping loans and

relieving debt, Softening the terms and conditions for both existing and new loans, and Increasing debt limits.

Jordan is also currently working on advancing innovative financing and promoting blended financing to harness resources for development, and scaling up public private finance. We are engaging and incentivizing private investment/finance through a supportive business regulatory environment and incentives to the private sector to invest in infrastructure projects are at the heart of our SDG and financing for development efforts: establishing clean energy electricity generation projects such as wind farms and other infrastructure and services expansion projects that create jobs, tourism, and economic growth. More support is needed to Jordan.

We are happy to share our experience and lessons learnt.

Madam President,

Let me conclude by congratulation the Permanent Representative of Jamaica and Portugal, on their success in guiding Member States towards a consensus on the substantive intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of this Forum.

Thank You