



**STATEMENT BY AMB. LAZARUS O. AMAYO, THE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC
OF KENYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

DURING

**THE FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT FORUM HELD IN
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 15-18, 2019

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

KENYA STATEMENT

DELIVERED BY AMB. LAZARUS AMOYO, PERMAMENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KENYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS DURING THE FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT FORUM, 15-18 APRIL 2019

1. I align my statement to the one delivered by the State of Palestine on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the statement delivered by Rwanda on behalf of the African Group.
2. Let me begin by thanking the President of ECOSOC, Amb. Inga Rhonda King for excellently organizing this year's Financing for Development Forum. I also take this opportunity to thank Amb. Lazarous Kapambwe, Permanent Representative of Zambia and Amb. Mariangela Zappia, Permanent Representative of Italy who successfully co-facilitated the negotiations of the Financing for Development outcome document.
3. Excellencies, we are in the fourth year of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, however with the pace at which we are going, compounded with emerging challenges, we are running behind on honoring our commitments for our collective desired goals of sustainable development by 2030.

Madam President,

4. The threat of Climate Change continues to be a major impediment to the implementation of the SDGs, in countries where rain-fed agriculture is the mainstay of their economies. In this regard, long periods of drought threaten livelihoods as well as access to food and water. It is therefore necessary to invest in low carbon technologies and create resilience, adaptation and mitigation measures.
5. We therefore welcome the Secretary General's Climate Action Summit scheduled to take place on September 23rd, 2019 where Kenya is pleased to co-lead the coalition on "Infrastructure, Cities & Local Action" with Turkey

& UN-Habitat. We assure the Secretary General of our support and call on all member states to meet commitments outlined in both the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

Madam President,

6. Adequate finance for development requires action on three crucial levels: firstly, we need domestic policies to build financial resilience and inclusion as well as actions geared towards promoting reliable financial practices to deal with debt management. Kenya has for example, through a mobile phone platform created a service for money transfer, financing and microfinancing to promote the inclusion of lower income earners, SMEs and the like. Furthermore, Kenya also recognizes that domestic resource mobilization is the primary and most reliable source of funding for the SDGs.
7. Secondly, we need to strengthen international cooperation as robust international actions are required. One of the areas that strengthens cooperation is trade, which increases growth and access to jobs. Similarly, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) lays emphasis on the role trade plays in increasing development and harnessing economic growth. In many developing countries, even with enhanced efforts, domestic resources remain insufficient. International development finance will therefore continue to play a critical role, especially in many developing countries that have the least capacity to raise domestic resources.
8. The third necessity is private sector involvement: we must mobilize private sector funds and investments to support the SDGs. We must take these bold actions and commit to work together on global challenges. Only through strengthened international partnership and collaboration can we make a momentous leap in securing the much-needed resources to finance the SDGs.
9. Furthermore, harnessing science, technology and innovation plays a big role in facilitating the implementation of the SDGs and national development agendas by bridging the digital divide through technology transfer which is essential for continued growth.

Madam President,

10. As I conclude, there is no shortage of sufficient capital in the global economy to fund the ambitious targets we have set under the SDGs agenda. However, the global financial system is not channeling these resources effectively towards investments for sustainable development to help countries to achieve the SDGs. We stress the importance of improving access to funds and global markets which will help us to reach the desired outcome that we set forth in the 2030 Agenda.

I thank you for your kind attention.