

General comments

Intro

- I would like to express the appreciation and gratitude of my country to the State of Qatar for organizing this High-Level Conference for Financing for Development and the Means of Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The exchange of country experiences and peer learning of national policy developments, the identification of challenges and the strengthening of international coordination, are all key elements if we are to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals on a global scale.
- The Argentine government believes that addressing the issue of financing for development is of fundamental importance if we are to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda.
- As expressed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, we must address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity.
- There continues to be a need for the significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources and the effective use of financing in order to give strong support to developing countries in their efforts to promote sustainable development.
- Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will therefore require an ambitious, comprehensive, holistic and transformative approach with respect to the means of implementation, combining different means of implementation and integrating the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.
- Argentina also considers that the United Nations continue to play a crucial role in the follow-up of commitments made by world leaders in relation to the financing for development and the means of Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to assist developing countries in achieving their objectives, including the mobilization of financial resources, capacity building and technology transfer in favorable, concessional and preferential terms to developing countries.

Economic challenges and Argentina Chair of the G20

- Argentina recognizes the importance of an adequate link between the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the tackling of the economic challenges that the world is facing today.
- Last year, during the previous session of the General Assembly, President Mauricio Macri of Argentina expressed that the objectives of the Argentine government were aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. Above all, he highlighted a "Poverty Zero" horizon.
- For the Argentine Government, reaching "zero poverty" requires, first and foremost, generating quality work and stimulating sustainable economic growth.

- Oriented towards this development horizon, the action of the Argentine Government is aimed at facing the most pressing macroeconomic problems, which often have to do with a closed economy, isolated from the world.

- The upcoming Argentine presidency of the G20 will therefore propose the preservation and strengthening of this objective, in the direction of the eradication of poverty and in accordance with the commitments assumed in the 2030 Agenda.

Implementation of the 2030 Agenda

- In December 2015, the Argentine government headed by President Mauricio Macri confirmed our country's commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. After the formal launch of the Agenda in March 2016, with the participation of national ministries, civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies (CNCPS, Consejo Nacional de Coordinación de Políticas Sociales) was tasked with the coordination of policies aimed at the adaptation and follow-up of the Agenda in our national territory.

- To carry out the process of implementing the 2030 Agenda, the objectives and priorities of the Government were especially contemplated. The prioritization of the SDGs was carried out according to the Government's "Poverty Zero" objective, and the CNCPS coordinated the inter-institutional work of adapting the goals, selecting indicators and preparing the technical metadata.

- This initial process, in which 26 agencies of the National Public Administration and approximately 100 ministerial and statistical officials participated, resulted in the adaptation to the national reality of 90 SDG targets and the selection of 222 linked monitoring indicators, with their metadata. Additionally, for the accountability process, a web platform was developed for the public dissemination of statistical information linked to the SDGs and disaggregated at the federal level, which should be operational by the end of this year.

- In short, the process of prioritizing and adapting the 2030 Agenda in Argentina is: **politically oriented**, because it integrates the SDGs to the policies and priorities of the National Government; **people-centered**, because it pursues the goal of eliminating poverty and reducing inequalities; **indivisible**, because it integrates the three pillars of development and the 17 SDGs; **cross-cutting**, because it protects the rights approach, the gender perspective, the inclusion of people with disabilities, native peoples and migrants; **participatory**, because it foresaw the participation of state and non-state sectors in the construction of political-technical consensus; **efficient**, because it uses existing institutional architecture with proven experience in the implementation of the MDGs; and **monitorable**, given that it includes a prioritized core of targets and indicators with clearly defined institutional responsibilities.

- The adaptation and implementation phase left important lessons and challenges for the coming years: 1) In terms of the immediate challenges we are able to identify, the consolidation of monitoring is one of the most important. If we want to enhance the success of the implementation of the Agenda, an effective and transparent follow-up of the progress that can contribute to decision-making on actions and investments is required; 2) Second, we must seek the means of implementation that are necessary to achieve the defined goals; 3) The third major challenge is to strengthen coordination between stakeholders, and to continue to create new areas of participation and exchange, in order to transform the 2030 Agenda Objectives into concrete initiatives that are measurable.

- Argentina reaffirms its commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda and recognizes that poverty eradication is the greatest challenge facing the world and Argentina. We have aligned the objectives and priorities of the national Government with the 2030 Agenda and we made progress in its implementation. We will continue working tirelessly to achieve public policies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.