

Statement by Mr. Amit Narang, Counsellor, on PGA's High-level Thematic Debate on Means of Implementation for a Transformative Post-2015 Development Agenda on February 09, 2015

**Mr. President,**

Let me begin by thanking you for organizing this series of high-level thematic debates on 'Delivering and Implementing a Transformative Post-2015 Development Agenda' and for starting the series with this debate on means of implementation.

The choice of the subject for today's first event of the series is symbolic and very apt.

Given the expectation that the new development agenda we are crafting will be a genuine international compact for multilateral cooperation for solving common problems, and the fact that the substance of the agenda has already been agreed to in the form of the Sustainable Development Goals, it is only fitting that we devote the next few months on agreeing to an ambitious global partnership for supporting the new agenda.

We align ourselves with the statement delivered by the distinguished Ambassador of South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77.

**Mr. President,**

The broader and integrated development template of the SDGs will require an integrated and comprehensive financing strategy to ensure the provision of additional, predictable and stable flows of resources to developing countries.

**Mr. President,**

The starting point for forging a revitalized Global Partnership must be to draw lessons from the implementation of MDG 8.

The keys failures there included a lack of integration and synergy between the substantive goals and the Global Partnership framework; an excessive reliance on donor-recipient framework to the detriment of systemic issues for boosting growth; a complete absence of monitoring and accountability of the global partnership against agreed targets and indicators; and the absence of inter-governmental oversight on its implementation.

The integrated template of the SDGs has attempted to address the first of these shortcomings, but more work remains to be done.

**Mr. President,**

The organization of the Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa in July this year is a welcome opportunity to enrich our efforts to forge an ambitious set of 'means' for implementing the agenda.

The linkage between the Post-2015 and FfD processes must be seen through the lens of ‘complementarity’. The objective of the FfD Conference is not to *replace* the Means of Implementation segment under the Post-2015 Development Agenda, but to *complement* it.

While there is a partial overlap between the two, FfD is a process in its own right, meant to track in a holistic and coherent manner the progress in financing development and tacking international systemic issues.

The proposal for expanding the scope of the FfD Conference by including the entire gamut of means of implementation issues therefore, needs to be examined with due caution, lest it overloads the agenda of the FfD Conference and shrinks the space for in-depth discussions on its existing chapters.

**Mr. President,**

Much of the recent discourse has focused on the insufficiency and declining role of ODA. Even though ODA levels have regrettably declined, this does not diminish their relevance. ODA will remain relevant and important in the post-2015 period. In fact the broader agenda envisaged under the SDGs would require ODA levels to be enhanced and scaled up.

“More and better aid”, as distinguished panelist Mr. Erik Solheim said.

At the same time, it is important to ensure that the enhanced provision of resources to developing countries for climate change and environmental concerns is additional and not at the cost of traditional development finance. The present double counting of climate finance with ODA is a matter of concern.

On the other hand, for South-South cooperation to live up to its potential, it must be allowed to grow under its own impetus. It can neither be expected to meet the shortfall in nor should it be straitjacketed in terms of rigid rules or policy prescriptions derived from North-South Aid.

The global debate on technology transfer remains the most relevant piece of the means of implementation template and must now focus on concrete solutions. The operationalization of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism under the UN would be a clear deliverable as part of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

**Finally Mr. President,**

It will be vital to put in place institutional mechanisms with the involvement of relevant organizations and stakeholders for the *accountability* of the global partnership and for ensuring that the agreed commitments and targets under means of implementation are met.

This issue should be an integral part of discussions under Follow-up and Review of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

I thank you.

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