

Statement by Hungary at the ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum

UN Headquarters, Trusteeship Council Chamber

23 May 2017

Dear Mister President,

Your Excellences,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This year's **ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development** is a **timely opportunity to assess the progress achieved so far** and get a state of play on **steps to be taken for making the Sustainable Development Goals** a reality for all countries.

The third financing for development conference of Addis Ababa in 2015 gathered commitment to mobilize the widest possible range of means of implementation for the new development framework.

Traditional development support should be delivered in more effective ways, by utilizing the comparative advantages and special expertise of diverse development actors in a smart way. But **ODA will never be sufficient on its own**. A reinforced Global Partnership for sustainable development should be both the underlying principle and the scheme for implementing the new agenda, **addressing all three dimensions of sustainability in an integrated manner**. Such a partnership should ensure ownership for development involving buy-in from all stakeholders.

Hungary is convinced that **there is no sustainable development without improving capacity in human resources**, which empowers individuals with the right skills and knowledge they need for shaping the future, managing the planet's limited resources and staying engaged in equal and participatory societies. With this in mind **Hungary has offered hundreds of government scholarships** for students coming from partner countries to our Higher Education Institutions and is eager to continue that practice also in the future.

Hungary acknowledges that while the SDGs mean a unique opportunity to deliver a better outlook for humanity, the **task ahead remains challenging**. We seem to **face difficulties at the global scale**, which do not make it easy to ensure coherence of international processes with national priorities at all times. **Migration has become a pressing issue for both developing and developed countries**, especially recently.

Regarding the **forum's outcome document**, we take note of the overall balance of the negotiated text, however **we have to flag** some **substantial remarks** with regard to paragraph 12. Hungary recognizes the complexity of and interconnections between migration and development, nevertheless prefers to **emphasize rather the role “well managed migration” can play in inclusive growth and sustainable development, and not just the contribution of “migrants”** in general. Migration is a complex, global and long-lasting phenomenon requiring carefully designed, balanced, evidence-based and **sustainable policy response that shall respect national decisions by Member States. Irregular migration can raise major challenges**. Sustainable migration policy requires **strengthened cooperation with countries of origin and transit on return and readmission of own nationals**, whereas **strong conditionality** – involving relevant policies, instruments and tools, including development, trade – **should apply** with regard to States that are unwilling to cooperate. Therefore, Hungary reserve its prerogative to **safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people**, including through the implementation of planned and well managed migration policies.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Hungary trusts that with common will to the global sustainable development agenda, this forum can contribute to making our pathway sustainable, and to realize the future we want. We count on the joint efforts by the UN family in this endeavour.

I thank you for your attention!