

Third International Conference on Financing for Development,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 13-16 July

Statement by Rolandas Krisciunas, Vice-Minister of Foreign of the Republic of Lithuania

Mr. President,
Excellences,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honour for me to address the Third International Conference on Financing for Development today. First of all, let me thank the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for hosting this very important event, the President of the General Assembly for his constructive engagement in the process and the co-facilitators - distinguished ambassadors from Norway and Guyana for their effective handling of the preparation of Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Lithuania fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and its Member States. We also would like to highlight some issues in our national capacity.

There is no doubt, that the year 2015 is a crucial year for the future of sustainable development as the new post 2015 Development agenda will be adopted later this year. We have made an enormous progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, but the fight against poverty and all forms of inequality is not finished yet. A huge work remains to be done beyond 2015.

Implementation of the future development agenda should be based on the mobilization of all resources: public and private, domestic, international and other innovative sources of finance. Official development assistance alone does not have the capacity to end the extreme poverty, the other means of implementation, such as stronger involvement of private sector; domestic resource mobilization, knowledge and expertise sharing, promotion of science, technology and innovations; stimulation of trade need to come and act together.

Lithuania shares the view that the role of official development assistance is changing. Effectiveness of aid and “smart” aid able to respond to the changing world and to meet the needs of developing countries is as relevant as ever. We believe that official development assistance used in a smart way could mobilize additional resources – domestic and private - to finance sustainable development.

Mr. President, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and gentlemen,

Let me also stress the importance of good governance, inclusive institutions, rule of law, sound policy and enabling environment, gender equality and women empowerment for the implementation of post 2015 Development agenda. In this regard, we see transfer of knowledge and expertise sharing standing out as a key ingredient to the development. Lithuania is a relatively new donor, but with a substantial experience in transformative processes. In still not so distant past Lithuania has undergone an impressive period of institutional, economic and social reforms. This transitional period is a great source of ideas, knowledge and methodology which could be applied, we believe, to the other countries as well. We know what worked for us and we are ready to share our experience, where there is a demand. Lithuania believes that enabling environment for sustainable development in a particular country could be created much smoother with a help of the partners who have already achieved this.

Mr. President, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and gentlemen,

Lithuania believes that we will be able to fulfil the ambition of the post 2015 agenda by our joint efforts. In this regard we stress the importance of a principle of shared responsibility – all actors need to take an action and contribute their fair share to reaching global goals. All of us - governments, business, civil society organizations, private foundations, parliamentarians and many others - need to make an extra effort in order to achieve sustainable development, end poverty and effectively address climate change.

Finally to conclude, from Lithuania's perspective the success of the post-2015 agenda depends on how we will be able to ensure effective implementation of our commitments. In this context, a single monitoring, accountability and review mechanism for the post-2015 agenda should play a significant role covering all levels - national, regional and global.

Thank you!