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President,
Secretary General,
Heads of State and Governments,
Excellencies,
Distinguished participants,

Today, the world is looking to Addis Ababa.

Major progress has been achieved in rooting out poverty in the last decades. Now our job is to eliminate extreme poverty by 2030.

But this ambitious goal – and the other new sustainable development goals – cannot be achieved if we only increase traditional forms of development finance. We must also unleash new forms of finance.

Based on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Norway is ready to join a consolidated and coordinated effort to release funds from all sources in support of sustainable development.

Mr. President,

We have come to Addis to establish what it takes to move "from billions to trillions" in Financing for Development. Not to put such amounts of money at the table, but to set the course for doing so. I believe we have moved significantly towards a transformative agenda, and agreed on important building blocks in a paradigm shift.

This conference represents a quantum leap in putting domestic resource mobilization and taxation at the heart and centre of the development agenda. This a very significant "take home pay".

We have sharpened the focus on the very serious need to increase investment in infrastructure, which for a number of years was lacking. Make no mistake: To deliver on the upcoming SDGs, these infrastructure financing gaps must be filled.

I believe we have also agreed upon an agenda that is strong and ambitious on mobilizing and promoting the role - economic and otherwise - of half of the population on Planet Earth: women.

Mr. President,

Norway re-confirms our commitment to spend at least 0.7% of our GNI on international development. A major share will continue to be spent in least-developed countries.

We call on other countries to increase their development assistance. We regret that some have recently decreased their assistance, especially when humanitarian needs are so large – from Syria to South Sudan.

But its also important that we change how we utilize development assistance.

Necessary and sustainable investments into developing countries will only materialize if governments work closely with the private sector. Aid must be used in a more catalytic way - to leverage funds from many sources and enable private sector development.

At the same time, governments need to do their part - by creating an enabling, transparent and accountable environment for inclusive growth.

Mr. President,

The multilateral challenges in front of us this year are huge – we need to agree on financing for development here in Addis, new sustainable development goals in New York, and how to combat climate change in Paris.

The first major conference this year is here in Addis. And there is now an urgent need to agree on the outcome document.

None of us in this room are perfectly happy with the (draft) final document. That usually signals that we - through give and take and opting for the politically possible rather than the best of all worlds - have reached what is possible.

I therefore urge all delegations to come together, to agree to what is on the table, and to find win-win solutions.

Thank you.