

Third International Conference on Financing for Development
15 July 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PHILIPPINES - COUNTRY STATEMENT

Hon. Roberto B. Tan, National Treasurer of the Philippines

Thank you Mr. President.

1. Let me first take this opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation to the **government and people of Ethiopia** for their hospitality and generosity in hosting this landmark global event. Yours is indeed a beautiful country.
2. The road to Addis Ababa has not been an easy one. But the presence of all of us here is proof of our belief in the transformative agenda of this Conference.
3. The Addis Action Agenda will not only strengthen the mobilization and effective use of financing from all sources to support the Post-2015 Development Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but will also enhance internal capacities and forge new ways of global partnership as a means to address the development challenges of the next 15 years.
4. The Philippines' vibrant economic performance in the recent years has demonstrated to us the importance of sustaining sound macroeconomic fundamentals, partnering with the private sector and the civil society, investing in our people, harnessing foreign flows including migrant remittances, and upholding transparency and good governance. We have also realized the significant gains from mobilizing **domestic public resources, private business and finance and international cooperation in our development progress**. **“Good governance” is, indeed, “good economics”**.
5. Disasters that have hit our country like Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) have also taught us the importance of disaster preparedness, putting in place risk mitigating

mechanisms, and increasing investments to strengthen our resiliency to climate change and natural disasters. We also recognize the value of international cooperation and partnership in the success of this crucial undertaking.

6. This high vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters together with exposure to global challenges such as financial and economic shocks, pandemics, and social and environmental weaknesses have impacted on our goal of achieving inclusive growth. They continue to remind us of the need for working together with the international community. As such we view the Addis Action Agenda as inextricably linked to the Post-2015 Development Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in helping achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions.
7. We recognize that the foregoing challenges are not unique to us and we understand these to be realities faced by many developing countries. We therefore join the call for initiatives to better address the complex and diverse challenges of developing countries, **including middle income economies**.
8. In this regard, we seek partnerships to enhance our access to adequate and coherent support that will build our national capacities on all levels in domestic resource mobilization, leveraging private sector participation, and achieving resiliency.
9. In complementing our domestic resource mobilization, we recognize the value of capacity building, developing technology and expertise, and instituting better financial mechanisms to leapfrog our development progress. We aspire to achieve education for all, universal health coverage, food security, and social and economic inclusion, supported by quality infrastructure.

10. Climate financing should be in addition to Official Development Assistance (ODA). Capacity building, finance, and technology will be critical in the implementation of our adaptation and mitigation strategy.
11. We welcome the establishment of a Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) to promote the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies.
12. We call attention as well on the need for coordinated policy on easier and cheaper access to highly demanded technologies, particularly those covered by costly intellectual property rights.
13. We call on concrete measures to improve migrant workers protection and rights, and decrease remittance costs. We can share best practices in managing migration and engagement with diaspora. We must all recognize that migrant workers contribute to economic opportunities and growth of both source and destination countries.
14. The Philippines is eager to share and exchange lessons learned and best practices on these fronts, including innovative ways of encouraging private financial flows and improving regulatory frameworks in public-private partnerships.
15. The Philippines urges the acceleration of the conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda and implementation of the Bali Package in achieving sustainable and inclusive trade. We strongly support the work of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in this regard.
16. Financing for Development, to have more impact, needs to be in tandem with good governance. We call on countries to join the Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative where the Philippines is one of the eight founding

members. We also encourage states to participate in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) for more open management and fair revenue sharing of natural resources that should contribute to sustainable development.

17. In conclusion, the outcome of this International Conference will be a significant step in achieving sustainable development. In order to do so, we need to deliver. We need to seize this opportunity to forge a global framework of partnerships, to take responsibility, and to become accountable for our own common future. Let us make this a legacy of concrete actions to ensure that **no one is left behind.**

Thank you.