



**STATEMENT BY SAMOA AT FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE BY HON MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENT FAAMOETAULOA DR FAALE TUMAALII
(Tuesday 14th pm)**

Mr President

Mr Sam Kutesa, President of the United Nations General Assembly,
Co-Facilitators of the Financing for Development process,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr President,

First let me extend our thanks to the Ethiopian Government for hosting this International Conference and for the hospitality extended to my delegation since our arrival. The pathway to where we are today has been long and arduous but the commitment has been steadfast and constructive from all parties involved. My delegation would like to associate itself with the statements of the Group of 77 and China through its chair South Africa, the Alliance of Small Islands states through its chair the Maldives and the statement to be delivered by the Pacific SIDS Group through its chair Tonga.

We all share a common objective, which is to eradicate poverty in all its forms, while stressing the importance of North-South Cooperation as

central and critical in dealing with the developmental bottlenecks and economic shortcomings experienced by developing countries.

My delegation emphasizes the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries (MICs). Furthermore it is also critical to support the implementation of relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action, the S.A.M.O.A. Pathway, the Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs, "the African Union's Agenda 2063", as well as paying urgent attention to conflict and post-conflict situations. Samoa like all SIDS have limited human, institutional and financial capacities, and are especially vulnerable to external economic and natural shocks.

As noted in the S.A.M.O.A. Pathway, SIDS remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities. There is no doubting the merits of the SIDS's "special case", defined largely by small size, extreme isolation, limited and narrow resource bases, geographic dispersion and isolation from markets, diseconomies of scale, capacity limitations, susceptibility to climate change and natural disasters, and global crises. As a small island developing state we feel that this "special case" needs to be a key consideration for the Financing for Development process and the post 2015 development agenda.

This Conference Mr President is thus an opportune moment to call for a revitalized global partnership for development to carry forward the mandate of sourcing financing for development as a lot still needs to be done to eradicate once and for all ever prevalent poverty and inequality.

ODA remains the main source of international financing for development for many developing countries. It should be based on quantified and time-bound targets that are consistent with, and build upon, the global partnership for development, which must of necessity be strengthened.

Mr President, Financing for development remain critical in addressing the developmental needs of developing countries. However Financing for development and the post-2015 development agenda processes as well as climate finance should thus be considered separate from each other and cannot be counted as ODA.

Climate finance and funding for Global Public Goods are likely to be allocated to those countries where it can achieve the biggest impact at the lowest cost. This means that it will be predominantly large middle-income countries which will benefit. Notwithstanding the complexities involved, it will be important to separately – and accurately – define, measure and count funds allocated to 'traditional' development assistance from funds allocated to climate change and Global Public Goods. This work should be a key objective in the post-2015 financing for development discussions.

Sustainable consumption and production strategies continue to be a priority for SIDS and need to be a central part of global SDGs and targets. Such strategies should emphasize enabling small and medium enterprises to promote rural development and enhance opportunities for the poor and

vulnerable in particular women and youth. Many SIDS are exploiting green economy approaches that emphasize social equity and ecological integrity because it means development that is economically viable, pro-poor, protects the natural resource base and leverages opportunities for regional collaboration.

Mr President, Samoa graduated out of LDC status in early 2014. We concur with the fact that sustainable debt financing is an important element for mobilizing resources for growth and development. However there is a need to address external debt problems of developing countries as an important part of international cooperation and the enhanced global partnership for development. Samoa is also considering ways by which it could use ODA in particular concessional financing to leverage other resources, build capacity and know how as well as promote policies for inclusive and sustainable growth.

In this regard Samoa is interested to find out more on analytical efforts to better understand how ODA is used within a country's context and then to determine how instruments and financing modalities could be tailored to suit. We appreciate the call to development partners to ensure that they can consider the most effective distribution of ODA in line with international commitments and pledges. ODA also needs to be used in a smart way for example through targeted efforts for policy support and capacity-building, innovation and technology transfer, and supportive schemes for the most vulnerable populations.

At national level Samoa will continue to improve its domestic revenue generation through strengthening customs administration and developing

appropriate revenue policy measures to promote growth and equitable development.

SAMOA looks forward to working together with all concerned to achieve the key objectives of this conference through effective and durable partnerships.

I thank you for your attention.