



Statement of H.E. President Hassan Sheikh Mahamud
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H.E. Hailamariam Deselegn The Prime Minister of Ethiopia
Mr. Ban Ki Moon the Secretary-General of the United Nations
Mr. Sam Kinlezi President of 69th Session of the UN General Assembly

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me and for my delegation to be here at this important conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa. Let me first at the onset joint my colleagues to express my sincere gratitude to the organizers of this august conference and the host country Ethiopia. This Conference provide a useful platform for discussing how to support countries in achieving their sustainable development goals and to reflect what we have accomplished so far.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to concentrate my remarks in three major areas that will enhance our concrete goals: the social desires, the sustainable financing needs with strong flexible partnership principles and adaptation of integrated implementation plan.

On the Social Needs: we need to set concrete achievable goals to gradually reduce poverty, we must concentrate all our efforts in building institutions and reducing conflicts so that we can enhance the chances for our children to be better educated, their health improved and have access to better clean water and better sanitation. We have to fight against the social injustice, especially the gender inequality.

We must ensure that all our children have a comprehensive free primary and secondary education, improve the education facility and advance and upgrade the quality of the teachers. We cannot continue to come up with good and formidable recommendations and accords, as usual, but we need to agree on concrete steps so that we can say by 2030, we met our goals by ending or reducing poverty in all its forms, achieved food security and improved nutrition, improved health and education quality, and attained gender equality and women empowerment.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the sustainable financing needs: This is the crucial aspect of all our programmes and plans. Before I get into this, let me share with you my country's experiences on the New Deal Compact. In September 2013, Somalia has committed itself with the International community the Somali New Deal Compact with flexible and concrete partnership principle based on a mechanism of coordination, the Somali Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF), with a pledge of over USD 2 billion. The SDRF main objective was to harmonize aid behind national priorities and build country systems which are transparent and accountable, and I am sure similar instruments have been adopted to other countries of the New Deal. We have also developed together additional safeguard measures to mitigate the risk of aid mismanagement. Today, after two years, we are still discussing the process with no sustainable funding to the priorities, and above all with limited ownership. At the time, we thought that the use of the country system is the tool to gain the ownership and this so far is limited to less than 5 per cent. However, I have all the reason now to say that with the establishment of different trust fund windows, things will move on the right direction.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The reason I made this example, is to learn from our shortcomings and challenges so that we will not repeat it, we have our Sustainable Development Goals to meet, and sustainable financing is a determinant factor. Now the question is what programmes we have to sustain. I believe, that Infrastructure programmes has to be sustained it has a critical and significant role to play for the achievement of our goals. Infrastructure development stimulates economic recovery by creating jobs

for the youth and enhances growth resulting improved livelihood of the people. Infrastructure development directly contributes to the GDP of our countries. It also needs greater public and the private sectors capital expenditures, as well as sustainable financing. In addition, we have to bear in mind that in some of the conflict driven countries, might lack the basic infrastructure with relatively weak institutional capacity, therefore, it is necessary to increase their funding to achieve the desired impact with a more comprehensive approaches to address their priorities, including technical assistance to deal with the capacity related bottlenecks.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the integrated implementation aspects: Somalia, fully supports the World Bank Global Infrastructure Facility as well as Africa 50 Infrastructure Fund and recommend that the conflict driven countries be given a special attention, since their basic infrastructure are damaged by wars and conflicts. We believe that by channeling and sustaining the funding for the long term infrastructure development we will meet our goals. Somalia also welcomes the use of pooled funding instruments including the public private partnership (PPP) in line with the national, and sub-national policies and priorities. Furthermore, Somalia welcome the South-South Partnership as means to enhance the cooperation between developing countries.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This morning I have delivered a key note speech at the IGAD High Level Roundtable discussion on Remittance as a tool for financing development. As you are all aware Somalia is hugely dependent on aid yet remittances from the Somali Diaspora dwarf this, the amount to \$1.2bn - \$1.6bn a year, approximately 50 per cent the country's GNI. Constraining remittances will hurt the poorest in Somalia where the social security system are yet to be developed fully and at the same time at least 40 per cent of our population depends on this indispensable resource to pay for education, health, housing and in general to run businesses which in turn create jobs and provide income.

I have requested our international partners to cooperate with us in securing the livelihoods and the stability of our country. The closing down of the international

banks handling the Somali remittances is not the right approach to Combatting Financing Terror and Anti Money Laundry (CFT/AML), we need for a comprehensive solution to the existing channels in financial governance in Somalia with a dual strategy; an immediate strategy through providing transparency and security measures, while continuing a comprehensive longer-term government strategy to improve financial governance in Somalia.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To this end, Somalia fully supports the recommendation to reduce the transaction cost of remittance to less than 3 per cent, and to ensure unrestricted access to remittances transfers across borders. Furthermore, Somalia is ready to participate and contribute to the coordination mechanisms among national and international regulatory authorities to discuss and remove obstacles to non-bank remittance service providers with a more transparent system.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me conclude my remarks by saying, if we want to meet our Sustainable Development Goal we have to put all the relevant tools to the best use and to set forward an engagement and ownership of follow-up and solid assessment efforts for the sustainability of Financing for Development. This is to say lets honor our commitments.

Thank You Very Much.