



PHILIPPINES

Maximum speaking time: 3 minutes.

PHILIPPINE STATEMENT
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ECOSOC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT SEGMENT
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Thank you, Mr. President.

We align ourselves with the statements of Ecuador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and of Honduras on behalf of the Like-Minded Countries Supporters of Middle Income Countries.

We also wish to give a warm welcome to Deputy Secretary General Amina Mohammed, who in her keynote address, outlined a vision for a UN that is “fit for purpose” to help Member States fulfill the 2030 Agenda. To achieve this, the DSG identified 3 principles needed for the UN, with which we fully agree: “strengthening leadership, addressing the trust deficit and focusing on results at the country level.”

Addressing the need for effective leadership and for bridging the trust deficit come hand in hand. While we ask for accountable and transparent governance, we must also allow the Secretary General and his team to lead and govern, and this we can do by focusing on core resources so that funding is programme-driven, not the other way around.

Focusing on results at the country level means alignment of UN’s work and strategic plans with the policies and priorities of member states.

The basis for these necessarily has to be the QCPR, which should not be expanded nor reinterpreted.

Always, the overarching goal is eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions. Given that 73% of the world's poor are in middle-income countries (MICs), the specific challenges of MICs must continue to be integrated into the strategic plans of the UNDS. We need to move beyond traditional economic and financial indicators to a multidimensional approach that will adequately provide for more tailored and relevant responses.

Mr. President, as we indicated during the High Level Dialogue on "Building Sustainable Peace for All", sustainable development remains a critical challenge in the Philippines, in areas where an end to armed conflict and a durable peace are yet to be achieved. We have worked with the UNDS towards our Peace and Development Roadmap, which is anchored on the principles of inclusivity, participation and convergence, and the emphasis that the UN's development funding and strategies must be aligned with our national priorities and retain a development focus.

The attainment of the vision of the QCPR, including the elaboration of an integrated financing strategy, is an urgent process. Nearly two (2) years have passed since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, and yet here we are still discussing on how to best implement it. Member States have come forward to identify their priorities and challenges through the NVRs at the HLPF. At some point in time, we need to reach a common understanding on our roadmap for implementation. We must build on the momentum of the Secretary General's commitment and of this ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development segment.

We remain committed and assure you of our full support.

Thank you.