

**Statement by H.E. Sven Jürgenson, Permanent Representative of Estonia to the UN
ECOSOC's Operational Activities Segment, 28 February – 2 March 2017**

Thank you, Mr President,

Estonia fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

True implementation of the universal Agenda 2030 requires actions at all levels - national, regional and global. The UN Development System's role is unique as it supports countries in achieving the SDG-s. The UNDS should be, therefore truly fit for purpose in the framework of promoting the implementation of the SDGs.

We are pleased that this year's Operational Activities Segment has focused on the implementation of the new QCPR resolution. The resolution includes important mandates addressed to the Secretary-General and the UN Development System. Estonia looks forward to the results of the system-wide review of present functions and capacities of all UN funds and programs. This analysis and recommendations are essential for addressing the gaps and overlaps in the current system and improving inter-agency approach in support of the Agenda.

The resolution entails reforms that should improve the functioning of the UN development system as the whole, including the governance and funding of the operational activities. We hope that the Resident Coordinator system will be significantly empowered and supported by more integrated UN Country Teams. We also hope that of the Standard Operating Procedures and will be strengthened in practice.

Implementation of the SDG-s will require a system that is adequately financed. The mandates in the QCPR, including pooled and innovative funding approaches are important for improving the financing architecture. Partnerships, especially with the international financial institutions and the private sector are also crucial for the delivery of the Agenda. As Amina Mohammed said in her first address as the Deputy Secretary General on Tuesday - "Success will require a bolder approach to financing and partnerships. Nothing will be achieved without engaging all actors".

As we speak of the transformative Agenda 2030, the great challenge is to improve the integration of development, humanitarian and peace building activities. Both, Sustaining Peace and Agenda 2030 recognize that development, peace and security, and human rights are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. The UN Development System should therefore enhance its capacity to recognize and address root causes and drivers of conflict, including by working together across UN pillars and agencies. Estonia fully supports the Secretary General's vision and efforts to improve the UN's capacity to take early action to prevent violent conflict and to link the reform of the UN's Peace and Security architecture with the reform of the UN Development System.

Mr President,

Estonia looks forward to the full implementation of the 2016 QCPR. We believe that in the future, ECOSOC and the Operational Activities Segment could play a stronger role in the follow up and monitoring of the resolution. *Thank you.*