

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands, ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017**

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. We align ourselves with the EU statement and would like to highlight four points in our national capacity.

Firstly, we greatly appreciate the SGs leadership in marking UNDS reform as one of his three priorities and stress the close linkages with management reform and reform of the peace architecture. We welcome Ms. Amina Mohammed back to New York as DSG. We fully support her focus on leadership, trust and results on the ground and look forward to bold, concrete and innovative steps that will drive the change needed.

Secondly, we would like to see a focus by the UNDS on its unique comparative advantages as a system, such as its normative role. The multilateral arena is a large space and each player comes with specific added value. That is why we have requested the SG in the QCPR to articulate the comparative advantages of the system, as a whole, in his June report. We believe the strength of the UN system is determined by its ability to deliver together and convene actors within and outside of the system to support the delivery of the SDGs.

Thirdly, reform is a shared responsibility, and we will play our part. We are committed to predictable, long-term funding that reduces fragmentation. Funding should be tailored to functions. As the G77 highlighted we cannot expect the UNDS to do everything everywhere. This would not be realistic with a budget of 26,7 billion USD, nearly three quarters of which is provided by 10 countries. Hence, scarce resources should be allocated where the need is greatest. The UN should focus on reaching the poorest and those most in need, wherever they are. Here, as Ms. Mohammed pointed out, results on the ground are the litmus test. That is why we also see a need for performance-based funding. In addition, as the Minister from Lao PDR highlighted on Tuesday, we need to look at different financing modalities, such as innovative financing.

Fourthly, we need a UN system that delivers as a whole in the field. In contexts where development, humanitarian and peacebuilding actors, and political or peacekeeping missions, are active under the UN flag we cannot afford a stovepipe approach. Progress in these domains is not linear and cannot be neatly compartmentalized into separate spaces. While respecting a clear division of roles and responsibilities for different actors, we need space for collaboration where helpful and effective.

In conclusion, we look forward to staying engaged. The Netherlands stands ready to do its part, and is looking forward to supporting the reform agenda, on the ground and here at the UN.