



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Under the auspices of ECOSOC

Session 19 - Realizing the SDGs: Matching ambitions with commensurate means of implementation -- resources, technology and capacities

Wednesday, 8 July 2015, 14:30 a.m. – 15:45 p.m.

The post-2015 development agenda will have at its core the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The SDGs, as proposed by the General Assembly Open Working Group, are a set of universal goals covering the whole range of sustainable development issues. The level of ambition captured in this proposal is high: if these goals are achieved, our world will be truly transformed over the next 15 years.

The challenge in front of the international community will be to match this transformative substantive agenda with adequate means to implement it – that is, to answer the question *how* to mobilize the funding, know how and other means to achieve these ambitious goals. An agenda containing ambitious goals and targets naturally calls for equally high ambition in defining and mobilizing the means for their implementation.

Financing, trade, debt sustainability, technology, and capacity building are the main building blocks of means of implementation. The Open Working Group recognized that if the SDGs are to succeed, each of the goals has to be associated with concrete means of implementation that will enable its achievement. Under each of the first sixteen SDGs, the Open Working Group thus identified targets that relate to means of implementation. This comes in addition to SDG 17, which is a dedicated goal for means of implementation. The Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing¹, on the other hand, built on the basis provided by the Monterrey consensus and Doha declaration to provide a menu of policy options to improve the mobilization of resources and their effective use. In addition, over the last two years Member States have held substantive discussions around a technology facilitation mechanism, as mandated by the Rio+20 outcome documents.

Business as usual is not going to get us to the Future We Want. Intensified international cooperation on many fronts will be needed. That is what is meant by a revitalized, effective global partnership for sustainable development. Implementing the SDGs will also require multi-stakeholder partnerships across the globe.

In a few weeks' time, the third international conference on financing for development will be held in Addis Ababa. There is a broad agreement that it should address the means of implementation of the post 2015 development agenda. Another important milestone will be COP21 on climate change in Paris in December 2015.

Possible questions for discussion:

1. What do the shared vision and determination to leave no one behind imply in terms of means of implementation for the new development agenda?
2. How can technology be put to serve the needs of the poor?
3. How can we ensure effective cooperation at all levels and among all the relevant actors to deliver the SDGs, and what features would make the strengthened global partnership effective?
4. What role can and should multi-stakeholder partnerships play in delivering this common agenda?

¹ A/69/315