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Chair: Mr. Jürgenson. (Estonia)

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The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Agenda item 24: Operational activities for development

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/72/124-E/2018/3 and A/72/61-E/2017/4)

(b) South-South cooperation for development (A/72/297)

1. **Ms. Mohammed** (Deputy Secretary-General) said that the Committee remained at the forefront of multilateral cooperation for sustainable development. It had demonstrated decisive leadership in driving forward the adoption of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, which was enabling the United Nations to meet the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review had laid the groundwork for a fundamental repositioning of the United Nations development system to meet current challenges and better support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

2. The repositioning of the United Nations development system was taking place against a background of monumental shifts in the global development landscape. Those shifts had given rise to new opportunities, but had also posed some very serious challenges to the work of the United Nations. Demographic trends, advances in science and technology, new knowledge networks and big data all held great potential for sustainable development, and were already yielding exciting results. At the same time, the international community continued to contend with a series of challenges that had put stress on interconnected societies and economies, and on the multilateral system itself. Key stresses included persistent inequalities within and between countries, unprecedented rates of migration and urbanization, climate change, conflict and violence, and growing dissatisfaction with political institutions.

3. The 2008–2009 global financial and economic crisis had revealed systemic imbalances in the financial system and overturned many assumptions in mainstream economic thinking. It had also slowed down the financing of poverty eradication and sustainable development. First, the crisis itself had restricted financing as market actors had moved back, and government fiscal instruments had been deployed to save the banking system. Second, many of the policy solutions used to stabilize the financial system had resulted in the unintended effects of discouraging longer-term lending and investment, and leading many

global financial actors to draw back from developing countries. There was an obvious need to re-establish the role of the financial sector in financing an inclusive, sustainable and real economy. It was time to usher in an era of fair globalization, with better financial policy and regulatory frameworks to ensure that the financial system was aligned with the 2030 Agenda and climate commitments.

4. The reality of climate change was irrefutable, and had raised questions about standard growth and development pathways. As the world faced unprecedented movements of people and urbanization rates, it was critical to shift away from high emission energy sources and production and consumption patterns. The poorest countries and communities suffered most from the adverse effects of climate change. Droughts in Africa were increasingly prevalent, while dry conditions related to the El Niño phenomenon had negatively affected crop production in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Small island developing States and coastal areas were particularly vulnerable. Risk and hazard levels were expected to worsen in the decades ahead.

5. There had also been a growing crisis of confidence in the governments and institutions entrusted to navigate such extreme and complex challenges. In recent decades, rising prosperity and standards of living had increased expectations of greater economic and political inclusion worldwide. Far too many people had been left behind. A handful of rich men held as much wealth as half of humanity. Across the globe, citizens were demanding a new relationship with government and institutions that was based on increased effectiveness, transparency and accountability. One notable recent survey had showed that only 14 per cent of people fully trusted their Governments to do what was right for their country.

6. Despite growth and the expansion of opportunities in many regions, gender and social inequality and youth unemployment remained stubbornly slow to change. At the same time, the vulnerabilities triggered by the increasing number of interrelated global crises, and rapid change in the economic, social and environmental spheres, had exacerbated citizens' discontent. The United Nations itself had not been immune from such feelings.

7. The 2030 Agenda was the international community's best tool for changing the alarming narrative and building a world of prosperity, peace and dignity for all. The Committee was uniquely placed to provide guidance and unity of purpose across the membership to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. It would be necessary

to reflect on how best to ensure that the Committee, alongside the other Main Committees of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, could effectively deliver on the heightened demands, expectations and integrated nature of the new development agenda.

8. She welcomed the efforts of Member States over the previous two sessions of the General Assembly, both in the Committee and in the plenary, to align the 2030 Agenda, and encouraged them to continue to move forward over the next few months. The United Nations development system, for its part, was exploring what changes were required for it to remain a partner of choice as countries localized and implemented the Sustainable Development Goals. The Secretary-General's report on repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: ensuring a better future for all (A/72/124-E/2018/3) responded to Member States' requests and outlined his vision on repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.

9. Throughout the process, the Secretary-General had sought to be as concrete and forthcoming as possible regarding his proposals and recommendations for change. A new generation of country teams was envisioned to service the 2030 Agenda with a greater level of coherence, effectiveness and accountability. The objective was to have stronger leadership, to reduce fragmentation and to ensure that the United Nations support was calibrated to the specific needs and priorities of each country relating to the Sustainable Development Goals. Traditional coordination tools were no longer sufficient to service the 2030 Agenda. Proposals were therefore being formulated to strengthen the authority and impartiality of the resident coordinators, while ensuring that they possessed the correct profiles and expertise for the 2030 Agenda. Resident coordinators should be highly skilled individuals who connected the global and local to serve one agenda on the ground and helped Governments to unlock the potential of partnerships and financing.

10. Steps were also being taken to more effectively support financing strategies and to engage upstream, particularly internationally, to uphold commitments on official development assistance (ODA) and to shape the policy context within which financing decisions were made. Capacities should be increased to help countries crowd in all resources — public and private — required to take action at scale. It was important to support and leverage the role of South-South cooperation, which was a unique source of knowledge and development solutions at the service of countries. Efforts were also required to improve work in urban environments, and

the Committee's discussions on strengthening the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) would be critical in that regard. More should be done to increase the meaningful participation of women. Gender equality was not simply a goal in its own right, but a strategy for success in all sustainable development efforts. Results at the country level must be the litmus test for success. Efforts were therefore required to strengthen the accountability of the United Nations development system, from the boards of funds and programmes to the operational activities segment of the Economic and Social Council, and back to the Committee for its overarching policy guidance.

11. In December 2017, the Secretary-General would deliver his second report. She was in contact with the President of the Economic and Social Council, the Chair of the Committee, and the President of the General Assembly regarding the consideration of those issues by the Economic and Social Council in February 2018, and subsequently by the General Assembly itself. In the meantime, their doors were open to the Committee and its members. The objective was to build a United Nations system of the future that could deliver on the expectations and ambitions of its people.

12. The United Nations development system had been on the side of its Member States as they responded and adapted to the profound changes that had affected the world and the sustainable development landscape in recent years, as it had been in previous decades. It had stood with Member States as a funding partner, convener, and as provider of technical support and much else. However, whatever the role, it was the ability of the United Nations development system to combine normative functions and operational capacities that made it so useful and unique. It took great pride in the continued trust of Member States, which had to be earned every single day.

13. The system was now facing new challenges and the boldest agenda yet. It was a time to look forward to try to meet those expectations and ambition. Much like devising the 2030 Agenda itself, repositioning the United Nations development system was a shared responsibility. There was a need to remain focused and to move quickly. The clock was ticking, and every day lost was a wasted opportunity in upholding the collective promise to the people the United Nations served. The United Nations looked forward to continuing to engage with Member States through the process on the pathway forward.

14. **Mr. Hanif** (Director, Office of Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs), introducing the report

of the Secretary-General on implementation of General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system: funding analysis ([A/72/61-E/2017/4](#)), said that the report provided an update on the funding of the United Nations development system using consolidated financial data reported by 34 United Nations entities in 2015. It also presented key trends in the funding of operational activities for development over the previous 15 years.

15. In 2015 the United Nations development system had received \$26.7 billion, which represented an increase of 4 per cent in real terms over the previous year, primarily resulting from a rise in non-core funding, and constituted around 19 per cent of total global ODA. In the period between 2000 and 2015, the volume of funding had more than doubled. However, non-core resources had grown around six times faster than core funding, and the relatively slow growth in core funding was a cause for concern, since core resources helped promote national ownership, while also providing flexibility. There had also been a lack of progress over the previous 15 years in broadening the narrow donor base of the United Nations development system.

16. Several United Nations entities had developed publicly accessible online systems to map data on donor contributions and expenditures. System-wide compliance with the International Aid Transparency Initiative common standard, which held organizations more accountable for the use of resources, was recommended. Although improvements had been made by United Nations entities to achieve full cost recovery, which would provide an incentive for donors to contribute more core funding, much work remained to be done. Unfortunately, pooled funding had accounted for only about 11 per cent of non-core funding in 2015, despite the clear acknowledgement by the General Assembly that inter-agency pooled funds were useful mechanisms for strengthening system-wide coherence, reducing fragmentation and generating economies of scale.

17. Although funding for United Nations humanitarian assistance activities had been increasing much more rapidly than funding for development-related activities, it was still not sufficient to keep pace with growing humanitarian demands. The development gains achieved, particularly in the most vulnerable programme countries, must therefore be protected to help reduce future humanitarian needs.

18. The report highlighted the need for the United Nations to explore innovative options to supplement funding raised through more traditional means, and

reviewed ways to improve the structured dialogues on financing; those dialogues could be a means to strengthen ownership by Member States, including by enhancing transparency and accountability of financial management practices and reporting.

19. **Mr. Chediek** (Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation ([A/72/297](#)), said that the report placed particular emphasis on the important catalytic role of South-South and triangular cooperation for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and on how the United Nations system was responding to developing countries' demands and needs for support in that regard. It focused on concrete measures taken by the United Nations development system to improve support for South-South cooperation initiatives at the national, regional and global levels.

20. The report described the key trends leading to the strengthened institutionalization of South-South cooperation. It outlined the measures taken by United Nations agencies to further mainstream South-South and triangular cooperation into their policy frameworks and strategies, and the key mechanisms to promote stronger coordination of United Nations support for South-South and triangular cooperation and lay the basis for the further institutionalization of South-South cooperation within and outside the United Nations system.

21. The report set out a number of conclusions and recommendations to ensure more coherent and coordinated United Nations support to South-South cooperation, including the preparation of a United Nations system-wide South-South cooperation strategy, the mapping of major development cooperation activities, and the development of an action plan for South-South cooperation in support of the climate change engagement strategy (2017–2021). United Nations entities had also been invited to continue mainstreaming South-South and triangular cooperation into their policies and programmes, and to provide substantive inputs for the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation to be held in Buenos Aires in 2019.

22. **Mr. Gómez Camacho** (Mexico) said that the reform of the United Nations system, and in particular of the development system, had several different dimensions. Some reforms of the development system were part of the Secretary-General's mandate and could be carried out internally, with political support from Member States; others were dependent on negotiation and agreement among Member States. The Secretary-General had indicated that the reform process should

involve two new contracts: one between himself and the system, and the second between the system and Member States. However, a third contract was required, namely among Member States themselves, in order to overcome inertia, achieve a much greater long-term vision, and transform a system largely built on lack of trust into one founded on trust.

23. It would not be possible to implement the 2030 Agenda without action to strengthen and transform discussion forums. Although the Economic and Social Council should be the main body for deliberations on development, it had lost its central function and relevance. Member States must grasp the opportunity to strengthen and transform the Council and restore its deliberative function so that it could foster implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The high-level political forum on sustainable development was of central importance to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular through the sharing of experience among Member States. However, during the meetings of the forum, each Member State had been given only 15 minutes to present its voluntary national review, which was woefully inadequate. Much more time should be allocated to each Member State in order to facilitate a substantive and productive discussion and exchange of experience.

24. **Mr. Kamau** (Kenya) said that the United Nations had come a long way since its establishment over 70 years previously but was now at an impasse because the world was changing so rapidly. The 2030 Agenda contained a series of deliverables to be achieved to keep the United Nations on track. One question to be addressed, however, was how to close the funding gap that existed owing to the scale of ambition, despite good overall levels of funding in the United Nations system. The United Nations could not close the gap alone, and consideration should be given to how it could leverage other resources strategically, including through interlinkages with other entities in the private sector. The resident coordinator system had changed a great deal over the previous 25 years, and clarification of the value added of a new resident coordinator system would be appreciated. The transformative power of South-South cooperation had been experienced in many countries, and he would welcome a better articulation of financial investment trends arising out of South-South cooperation and a comparative analysis between North-South investment and trends in South-South cooperation financing.

25. The United Nations system was not facilitating the interrogative debate necessary for transfer transformation and attainment of the political and development goals. The Economic and Social Council

and its subsidiary bodies must therefore be reviewed. The high-level political forum on sustainable development should become a forum for interactive debate to promote the sharing of ideas and experience.

26. **Mr. Hanif** (Director, Office of Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs) said that the building of trust was essential to develop a United Nations system that was responsive to new challenges. The \$26.7 billion in funding for operational activities for development, which accounted for about two thirds of total funding for United Nations system-wide activities, was a vote of confidence in the United Nations development system. With almost 79 per cent of funding earmarked, the quality of funding had to improve. In terms of quantity, there was no expectation that the development system should increase funding for itself. The system must be a catalyst in ensuring that financing streams were targeted towards the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly given the number of actors that could deliver results in partnership with the development system. The funding compact to be unveiled by the Secretary-General in December 2017 would address quality and quantity of funding, as well as the need for the system to deliver in terms of transparency, accountability and collective results.

27. The development system had evolved both by design and by default, including in response to exogenous factors such as climate change, the financial implications of crises, changing needs of developing countries and technological changes. However, without a real change in mindset and functional arrangements, it would not be able to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. The level of integration required for the 2030 Agenda was unprecedented and developing countries would require policy advice. The Secretary-General was therefore introducing changes to the resident coordinator system, including through a new generation of country teams. Coherent, practical and implementable recommendations would be forthcoming in December 2017.

28. **Mr. Chediek** (Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation) said that research on South-South cooperation was increasing. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs was working with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other partners to establish a network of southern think tanks to gather information on such issues as differences and complementarities between South-South and North-South cooperation. That information would be included in the independent annual comprehensive South-South cooperation report. Despite the qualitative and quantitative expansion of South-South cooperation within the United Nations system, most of the

cooperation took place outside the system. Efforts were therefore being made to facilitate the development of frameworks, and the sharing of basic data and best practices, mechanisms that could be utilized by partners engaging in South-South cooperation.

29. **The Chair** invited the Committee to engage in a general discussion of the item.

30. **Mr. Viera Salazar** (Ecuador), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that improvements in the United Nations development system should serve to enable it to better support countries, particularly developing countries, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and of their national plans and strategies. The aim should be to strengthen the system and mobilize more resources, bearing in mind the importance of multilateralism and the crucial role of the United Nations in development cooperation. Operational activities for development should be universal, voluntary, neutral and multilateral, and flexible enough to respond to the needs of programme countries, for the benefit of those countries, at their request, and in accordance with their own development policies and priorities.

31. The Group recognized the important role of the resident coordinator system in supporting Government efforts, improving the effectiveness of operational activities for development through strategic support for national plans and priorities, enhancing sustainable development outcomes, and thereby increasing coherence and efficiency and reducing costs at the country level. It was essential to take into account the need to strengthen the capacity of developing countries in their efforts to achieve long-term sustainable development, while bearing in mind their different development levels and realities on the ground. Continued and enhanced support must be provided to developing countries.

32. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development should form the basis of any proposed reform of the United Nations development system. It must be borne in mind that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions was the highest priority and the underlying objective of the development system. States' sovereignty, independence and ownership of their development pathways must be fully respected, and national policies and priorities taken into account.

33. South-South cooperation, which was complementary to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, was a manifestation of solidarity among the peoples and countries of the South, and its importance in achieving internationally agreed

development goals must be recognized. South-South and triangular cooperation were being leveraged in support of development processes in a wide range of areas and included innovative ways of carrying out development projects. The new regional banks being established in developing countries could promote revitalized partnerships among countries of the South. At the same time, there was an urgent need to address unmet ODA commitments, as such assistance remained the main channel of development financing for developing countries.

34. The Group of 77 and China looked forward to the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation to be held in 2019 on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. It called upon the UNDP and other relevant United Nations entities to assist developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, in undertaking South-South cooperation, including through the sharing of best practices and experience.

35. **Mrs. Nguyen** (Viet Nam), speaking on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), said that development cooperation between ASEAN and the United Nations had been growing in many areas. The ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the 2030 Agenda would be implemented in a mutually reinforcing manner, and priority cross-cutting areas that could serve as catalysts to promote complementarities between them had been discussed in a high-level dialogue. A joint study on complementarities and ongoing efforts to promote sustainable development cooperation was being prepared by Thailand, the ASEAN Secretariat and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and a number of project proposals were being fast-tracked in partnership with United Nations entities and the World Bank. An ASEAN-China-UNDP symposium on financing for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals had been held in August 2017.

36. United Nations operational activities played an important role in assisting Member States to address the daunting development challenges they faced. In order to create real impact on the ground, the United Nations development system must always ensure that its work was aligned with the needs, priorities and capacities of programme countries. Enhanced coordination and coherence across the system were required in all phases of work. In order to ensure efficiency and synergy of United Nations country teams, common operational platforms across United Nations entities should be established, while tapping on national systems and

mechanisms as part of capacity-building and transfer of knowledge. The impartial and effective leadership of the resident coordinators, backed by real authority and appropriate institutional arrangements, was essential to ensure optimum performance at the field level and effective cooperation with the host Government.

37. The issue of decreasing core resources must be urgently addressed. The reliance on earmarked contributions had weakened the multilateral nature of the United Nations development system, increased the risk of duplication and downplayed the development needs and priorities of programme countries and the role of intergovernmentally agreed strategic plans. ODA was expected to be a key determinant in leveraging other international sources of financing, and ASEAN reiterated its call for developed countries to meet their ODA commitments in accordance with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. To promote leverage, the United Nations development system had to develop appropriate capabilities, including through the provision of integrated policy support to Governments to create an enabling policy environment for the mobilization of resources. Other types of support might include brokering new partnerships, providing tools and knowledge on social and environmental safeguards and sharing experience on local context with development actors.

38. Cooperation within ASEAN had been developed in all domains, and efforts were being made to narrow the development gap among ASEAN members through the implementation of Work Plan III of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration. South-South and triangular cooperation played an important role in the global partnership for development, but were complementary to, not a substitute for, North-South Cooperation. ASEAN appreciated the enhanced support from the United Nations development system for South-South cooperation and initiatives, particularly in the areas of policy dialogue, capacity development, data and information sharing, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. South-South and triangular cooperation should be mainstreamed in the policy frameworks and strategies of the United Nations development system.

39. **Mr. Bin Momen** (Bangladesh), speaking on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries, said that the United Nations development system must be reformed to deliver on its mandated tasks, including those set out in General Assembly resolution [71/243](#), and better support Member States, particularly the least developed countries and other vulnerable countries, in accordance with their needs and priorities. Any repositioning of the development system must be guided by that resolution.

Coordinated and coherent support should be provided to the least developed countries for the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda and the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020. The United Nations entities dedicated to the least developed countries should be strengthened, and there should be a strong presence of the development system in all vulnerable countries. The principle of national ownership must be maintained. Transparency and accountability to Member States, including the host country, were vitally important.

40. The United Nations development system must be well resourced to support Member States, and the Group would welcome further information on how to finance the Sustainable Development Goals in the December 2017 report of the Secretary-General. It was concerning that funding and staff of the development system remained highly concentrated in programmes addressing a limited number of Goals; the Sustainable Development Goals were indivisible, and a more balanced approach must be taken to their implementation. Although sustainable development and peace were mutually reinforcing, resources should not be diverted from development projects. Reform of the United Nations development system should be aligned with other ongoing reform efforts in the United Nations.

41. South-South cooperation had great potential for accelerating development in the South as a complement to North-South cooperation. Development cooperation from emerging economies had increased substantially over previous decades, and cooperation between the least developed countries and the South was going beyond the provision of aid to include more varied areas of cooperation, particularly trade and investment. South-South cooperation needed to be enhanced to accelerate development in the least developed countries, and should be further leveraged as a critical source of finance and technology transfer for those countries. In order to assist least developed countries in moving up the global value chains and facilitate the transformation of their economies, emerging economies should grant duty-free and quota-free market access for the products of those countries and ensure easy mobility for migrant workers.

42. **Mr. Jaime Calderón** (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), said that the United Nations development system should continue to help countries in the CELAC region implement the 2030 Agenda in line with their national priorities. The mandates of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes should take into account the interlinkages between the

Sustainable Development Goals and maximize the impact of one goal through the achievement of others, in line with the basis of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. CELAC therefore welcomed the process to align the work of the United Nations with the 2030 Agenda and hoped that the Secretary-General's recommendations would provide for the changes necessary to enable the United Nations to support the development framework in an effective manner. Entities in the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates, should incorporate the Sustainable Development Goals in their strategic planning documents and in their work at all levels, bearing in mind that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, was a prerequisite for sustainable development, and should therefore be the main priority and underlying objective of United Nations operational activities for development.

43. The CELAC countries remained committed to ensuring the effective operation of the United Nations development system and its operational activities. The governance architecture must be more efficient and transparent. Accountability should be enhanced, as should coordination and coherence in the operational activities for development at all levels of the development system in order to improve strategic planning, reporting and evaluation, and enhance support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

44. Many countries of the CELAC region were engaged in South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of achieving shared objectives, guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty and ownership. The United Nations development system should increase support for such cooperation, at the request and under the control and leadership of developing countries, through a system-wide approach, taking into account that South-South cooperation was a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation. In that regard, South-South and triangular cooperation should continue to be mainstreamed into the policies and strategic frameworks of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system. The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation would play a central role in promoting such cooperation at the global level and across the United Nations system, taking into account lessons learned, good practices and knowledge sharing.

45. **Mr. Blair** (Antigua and Barbuda), speaking on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), said that adequate and predictable funding, in particular for operational activities, would promote better alignment of the United Nations development system with the 2030 Agenda. CARICOM, which had been collaborating

closely with the agencies, funds, and programmes of the development system, welcomed the efforts to reposition the system to make it fit for the purpose of supporting the subregion in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Delivering as one at the global, regional and country levels was a major component of an integrated United Nations development system. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review should form the basis of any reform of the United Nations development system, and the principles of universality, neutrality, multilateralism and transparency should guide the process.

46. There was no "one size fits all" for development and development assistance; instead, poverty eradication, economic growth and sustainable development should be the guiding principles for operational activities for development, which must be carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at their request, and in accordance with their own national development policies and priorities, and should also take into account the need for national capacity-building.

47. The disproportion between core and non-core funding continued to weaken the multilateral framework for development assistance. The trend towards non-core resources was increasing operational costs and fragmentation of the United Nations system. An equitable balance must be achieved between core and non-core funding resources, and the development assistance offered should be responsive to national policies and plans and free from conditionalities.

48. CARICOM emphasized the importance of South-South cooperation, which, along with triangular cooperation, should be integrated into the operational activities of the United Nations system. However, such cooperation was a complement to, rather than a substitute for, North-South cooperation. South-South cooperation and the United Nations system could be instrumental in addressing the long-term development challenges of small island developing States by promoting technology transfer, increasing system wide capacity-building, and facilitating access to the full range of services available throughout the development system.

49. **Ms. Edward** (Nauru), speaking on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States, said that small island developing States were a special case for sustainable development in view of their vulnerabilities, unique geographical situation, economies and environments. The repositioning of the United Nations development system must take into account the need to mainstream the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action

(SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway) into plans and priorities concerning small island developing States.

50. The findings of the Joint Inspection Unit's comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States should be implemented, wherever appropriate, including with respect to the functioning of multi-country offices, which was an area of particular concern. The Pacific small island developing States looked forward to efforts to review and tailor the role and operational activities of the multi-country offices, in accordance with the mandate in paragraph 67 of General Assembly resolution 71/243.

51. Coherence and coordination of all activities on the ground were paramount to achieving common objectives derived from United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. To that end, the resident coordinator system should be strengthened, particularly in the Pacific, where 10 countries were overseen by one resident coordinator; the resident coordinator should have visibility of all projects and activities and should work in close consultation with governments to ensure alignment with national priorities.

52. Noting the importance of adequate and predictable financing through core resources, she said that the Pacific island developing States looked forward to proposals on how to reverse the increasing imbalance between core and non-core resources.

53. **Mr. Mohamed** (Maldives), speaking on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), said that small island developing States remained a special case for sustainable development in view of the numerous challenges they faced. The Alliance was committed to strengthening the United Nations operational activities for development to ensure that the system was better positioned to provide the assistance required for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda, with the Samoa Pathway as the blueprint for development.

54. There were a number of matters regarding the functioning and operation of the United Nations development system that remained unclear and prevented Member States from giving more specific guidance, resulting in the mandates to the Secretary-General in paragraphs 19, 45 and 58 of General Assembly resolution 71/243. Clarification of the roles and operational importance of some of the key components of the development system was required, as was further information on coordination and the oversight role of Member States.

55. The resident coordinator system, which was of vital importance for programme countries to implement

the 2030 Agenda, must be well designed with the appropriate regional and global network. Standardized guidelines for engagement of United Nations entities with resident coordinators on the ground should be developed to maximize cost savings and efficiency. Action must be taken to review and tailor the operational activities of the multi-country offices, in accordance with paragraph 67 of General Assembly resolution 71/243. The Alliance hoped that the December report of the Secretary-General would fully address all aspects of the operation and management of the resident coordinator system, as well as the wider issue of how the repositioning of the development system would fit into the broader reform of the United Nations.

56. The funding mechanism for the development system must be predictable and flexible in order to address the priorities of programme countries. Accordingly, core resources remained the preferred funding option for the development system, and highly earmarked non-core resources, which encouraged silos, should be discouraged. Some low-risk financing options could be explored provided that the system would not have to redesign itself as a financial hub. The development system must continue to work closely on financing matters with international financial institutions and act as an interlocutor for programme countries on funding and financing priority.

57. Genuine, durable partnerships based on mutual respect were particularly important for small island developing States. The Alliance would welcome assistance from the United Nations in formulating policies and guidelines for the further development of private sector partnerships, which could also be beneficial for the United Nations development system. At the same time, it discouraged the United Nations from competing with programme countries for the small pool of local private actors. It highlighted the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation, including in the policies and strategic framework of the funds and programmes of the United Nations development system, on the clear understanding that those types of cooperation could not replace North-South cooperation, which should remain the primary means of development cooperation.

58. **Mr. Reddy** (India) said that, with Member States already presenting their voluntary national reviews in regard to the Sustainable Development Goals, the focus was on whether the United Nations development system was well equipped to facilitate national efforts. In order to adapt, respond to evolving challenges and realize opportunities for development cooperation, the development system must overcome fragmentation,

adopt a more coherent approach, work towards achieving national priorities, and avoid politicization.

59. Financing for development was the crucial area to be addressed. The United Nations development system was largely dependent on earmarked funding from donors. Core non-earmarked resources must increase significantly if the development system was to become more effective and attuned to the needs of developing countries, especially those with modest means and facing more vulnerable situations. Both the United Nations development system and donors must assist in that regard.

60. Although South-South cooperation was still at relatively modest levels, it was more in line with the priorities of the partner countries than traditional donor aid, and emanated from shared experiences of a colonial past that had subjugated and distorted economics, and an understanding of common development challenges. India was continuing to expand its development partnerships for capacity-building across continents, in the spirit of South-South solidarity, and in June 2017 had established the India-United Nations Development Partnership Fund. It had hosted the third India-Africa Forum Summit and the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation in 2015, and had hosted an International Conference on South-South Cooperation in New Delhi in 2016. India had recently launched a satellite that would support a variety of communication services for its neighbours and had been the first country to make a voluntary contribution to the United Nations Trust Fund for International Cooperation in Tax Matters to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the meetings of the Committee of Experts.

61. **Ms. Ponce** (Philippines) said that her country had consistently maintained that the operational activities for development of the United Nations should be aligned with the development and changing needs and priorities of Member States. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review should form the basis of efforts to reposition the United Nations development system, and, as a middle-income country, the Philippines looked forward to action in response to the call in General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) to address the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries as well as the specific challenges confronting middle-income countries. The United Nations development system must learn to work as a system. Its funds and programmes must seek innovative ways of working together, reflecting the new context of the 2030 Agenda in accordance with each entity's mandate and taking into consideration different country realities and priorities.

62. Since funding drove programming, the continuing imbalance between core and non-core resources was a cause of concern. While States and donors should prioritize core and unearmarked funding, there was a critical need for greater transparency, accountability and governance on the part of the United Nations development system. There was an urgent need to operationalize the concept of critical mass of core resources, incentivize donors, broaden the donor base and ensure full cost recovery. The Philippines hoped that the December report of the Secretary-General would elaborate further on the issue of addressing capacity gaps in order to support policy integration, data management, partnerships and financing. In particular, it should provide clarity on the proposed funding compact and on the proposals for a new generation of country teams.

63. South-South cooperation was essential to assist the developing efforts of developing countries, but must be viewed as a complement to, rather than a substitute for, North-South cooperation. The Philippines welcomed the actions taken to institutionalize South-South and triangular cooperation in the United Nations development system, but emphasized the need to avoid duplication with the system-wide functions of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.

64. **Mr. Alikhani** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that improved performance of the United Nations development system was essential if Member States were to achieve the goals of the transformative 2030 Agenda. A visionary plan must be developed providing for the effective implementation of the actions called for in General Assembly resolution [71/243](#).

65. The United Nations development system should continue to provide coherent and integrated support, tailored to the changing needs and priorities of developing countries and respecting the principles of national ownership and leadership. Efforts must be made to ensure that the governance architecture of the development system was transparent, accountable and able to enhance coordination, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency at all levels in order to facilitate system-wide strategic planning in support of the 2030 Agenda. The resident coordinator system should be responsive to the plans, priorities and needs of the host country.

66. Core resources were the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations, and the existing imbalance between core and non-core resources remained a matter of serious concern for achieving development objectives. Given the significant challenges that many developing countries faced in achieving sustainable development, reductions in

programme activities would impair the performance of development projects and related joint activities in the field. The quality of programme implementation at country level should take precedence over any administrative considerations.

67. South-South cooperation, which played an important role in international cooperation, was a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South Cooperation, and must be integrated into the operational activities of the United Nations development system. His country welcomed the information provided in that regard in the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation (A/72/297) but would have welcomed more analytical information on the challenges of South-South cooperation in the context of the implementation of major internationally agreed development goals. It hoped that such information would be forthcoming in the relevant report of the Secretary-General to the next session of the General Assembly. Noting the critical role of regional initiatives in South-South cooperation, he said that his country would be hosting the third Asia Cooperation Dialogue Summit in 2018. It also welcomed the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, with a view to expanding collaboration between those two entities.

68. **Ms. Nuran** (Indonesia) said that the United Nations must reposition itself to support Member States in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; General Assembly resolution 71/243 should be used as guidance in making the development system fit for purpose. Greater coordination and coherence between Headquarters, regional commissions and country teams were essential if the development system was to deliver as one and address development needs and priorities on the ground.

69. The United Nations must work with Member States, partners and the international community to find innovative ways to mobilize public and private resources for development and move towards a stronger integrated financing strategy in accordance with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The tropical landscape financing facility launched in October 2016 by Indonesia in partnership with the United Nations and the private sector was one example of an innovative vehicle to channel private capital for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The facility provided funding for Indonesian rural smallholders to improve their productivity while conserving the natural environment.

70. South-South and triangular cooperation were important elements of a global partnership for development, but were a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation. Action was required to strengthen United Nations support for South-South and triangular cooperation, and Indonesia welcomed the efforts of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and UNDP to establish networks aimed at overcoming the challenges of developing countries in the South and assisting in capacity-building. Her country was committed to strengthening the national capacities and collective self-reliance of developing countries, and had shared its experience and knowledge in a variety of areas with Southern partners in 96 countries.

71. **Ms. Zvereva** (Russian Federation) said that her country attached great importance to the consistent improvement of the operational activities for development based on the fundamental principles set out in General Assembly resolution 71/243. Given the scale and complexity of the United Nations development system, and its role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, any changes to its work would be possible only with broad consensus among Member States. Her delegation once again urged the Secretariat to provide additional details and analysis of the impact of the possible innovations as soon as possible.

72. Her delegation considered that the proposals made in the December report of the Secretary-General and other reports should not go beyond the scope of General Assembly resolution 71/243; to do otherwise would amount to a revision of the resolution and would impose new areas of responsibility, such as conflict prevention, on the development system. The Russian Federation had consistently opposed the politicization of operational activities; in that regard, it supported strengthening the principle of national leadership and responsibility for defining cooperation strategies with the development system. Proposals regarding activities of the development system in the field must aim to strengthen interaction between recipient States and United Nations country teams, and seek to improve United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. Country teams should be established based on the needs of Governments and financial expediency.

73. Proposals to strengthen the resident coordinator system should address training and enhancement of accountability to national Governments, rather than involvement in the political process. Measures to strengthen communication between resident coordinators and agencies represented at country level must not undermine agencies' accountability to Headquarters, and questions, problems and decisions should be discussed in

a collegial manner. The role of the Economic and Social Council in developing norms and standards for operational activities in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations should be strengthened. The operational activities segment of the Council should remain the main mechanism for monitoring and reviewing the progress made in implementing the quadrennial comprehensive policy review.

74. The Russian Federation welcomed the efforts to promote and strengthen South-South cooperation, including through the implementation of specialized strategies by United Nations funds and programmes. It hoped that the important guiding principles reaffirmed at the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South cooperation in Nairobi in December 2009, such as respect for sovereignty, national responsibility and independence, equal rights, lack of conditionalities, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual advantage, would be further strengthened and developed at the second High-level Conference for the benefit of developing countries.

75. **Ms. Leyva Regueira** (Cuba) said that the United Nations development system had an essential role to play in promoting the achievement of national development priorities and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in order to advance the sustainable development of the countries of the South. The system should make a greater contribution to addressing the specific development challenges faced by the most vulnerable countries. Particular attention should be given to the difficulties experienced by countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, peoples and countries under foreign occupation, and middle-income countries.

76. The ambitious reform process of the United Nations development system must strictly respect the principles guiding operational activities at the country level, notably the system's neutrality, intergovernmental nature and strictly development-related objective. The system should be more proactive in eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development, and more responsive to national priorities. It should also be ensured that developing countries were decisive participants in the governance of the development system, and that flexible and inclusive policies were carried out that respected the principles of voluntary acceptance, respect for sovereignty and leadership of the recipient State. Her delegation hoped that the principles of multilateralism and international cooperation would be strengthened through an open, transparent and inclusive negotiating process.

77. Cuba reaffirmed its commitment to the principles of South-South cooperation, but noted that the focus on such cooperation was providing false justification for persistent failure by developed countries to fulfil their ODA commitments. Although South-South cooperation remained a key engine for development, it must be seen as a complement to, and not a substitute for, North-South cooperation. Cuba supported the strengthening of neutral, non-politicized and efficient international development institutions that respected national sovereignty, self-determination of peoples and government ownership of development processes.

78. **Mr. Budhu** (Trinidad and Tobago) said that the United Nations development system and operational activities were of key importance for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Samoa Pathway. However, the ambitious and transformative global development agenda required a fundamental shift in the system's approach to sustainable development.

79. His country remained convinced that the United Nations development system would, for the foreseeable future, be a stable and long-term reliable partner in its efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the national development strategy 2016–2030 (Vision 2030). However, despite having to cope with the vulnerabilities of being a small island developing State, Trinidad and Tobago had, by virtue of its per capita income, been classified as a high-middle-income developing country, and was not eligible for international development assistance and concessionary financing that could boost its limited resources to accelerate sustainable socioeconomic development. Any proposal on the long-term repositioning of the United Nations development system must therefore take into account the principles of universality and diversity, and the need for multidimensional system-wide support. The approach should be based on national priorities and specific needs, while ensuring national ownership and leadership.

80. The United Nations development system could do much to assist in strengthening national statistical capacities in order to better collect and analyse high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data at the national level, as well as in the context of the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals; such data was of critical importance to tracking the progress of implementation of the Goals, and remained an acute challenge for his country. His delegation believed that operational activities for development should encourage national capacity-building by ensuring the transfer of new technologies to developing countries and facilitating access to the full range of services available through the United Nations

development system, including country offices and regional commissions.

81. His country was grateful for the assistance it had received earlier in the year from UNDP, under its Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support mission, which would inform the development of appropriate strategies and approaches for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals. Collaboration with the United Nations country team, including the resident coordinator, was providing Trinidad and Tobago with access to the knowledge, experience and resources it required in overcoming the challenges to ensure that no one was left behind.

82. **Mr. Matjila** (South Africa) said that a scaled up and significantly strengthened role for the operational activities for development in assisting countries to achieve their development goals was of crucial importance. His country welcomed the efforts to address gaps and overlaps in the United Nations development system as it attempted to work more efficiently, transparently and inclusively at country level in line with core principles of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of ownership and leadership of national Governments in the realization of sustainable development.

83. The reform of the United Nations development system must be guided by the resolutions on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, and the resident coordinator system must be informed by national plans, policies and priorities and remain under the leadership and ownership of national Governments. The indivisibility of the Sustainable Development Goals must be upheld and the development system must not depart from its core mandate to support development; recognition of the mutually reinforcing relationship between peace and development should not adversely affect resources for development. More emphasis would have to be placed on enablers for development, such as capacity-building, technology transfer and a fair international environment, in order to be more effective in assisting programme countries to eradicate poverty in all its forms, as the highest priority and fundamental objective of the United Nations development system. The fragmentation of UN entities at country level would also require attention.

84. The increasing imbalance between core and non-core resources, which hindered programming at the country level, remained a serious concern. South Africa would appreciate further information on the proposed funding compact, particularly on its impact on core resources.

85. **Mr. Rattray** (Jamaica) said that it was imperative for the United Nations development system to respond effectively to the demands of the 2030 Agenda. Efforts to improve its effectiveness, efficiency, coordination, coherence and impact must be complemented by action to reinforce national ownership and leadership, ensure country-contextual responses, rather than a “one size fits all” approach, and make country-level delivery for all the litmus test for success. Jamaica hoped that the reform proposals set out in the December report of the Secretary-General would be more closely aligned with the mandate of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review.

86. Regional policy coordination was operating at a suboptimal level owing to an unclear division of labour within the system and inefficient use of United Nations policy capacities on regional priorities. Jamaica therefore welcomed the Secretary-General’s plans to conduct a review of the regional functions and policy and data management capacities of the development system in order to improve coherence and foster a unified policy voice at the country, regional and global levels.

87. Jamaica attached great importance to improvements to the resident coordinator system with a view to ensuring empowered and well-resourced leadership with clear lines of authority over United Nations country teams on system-wide responsibilities. The structure of the resident coordinator system should facilitate impartiality, independence, and the ability to effectively manage dispute resolution and governance mechanisms.

88. The reduction in the resources available to United Nations agencies for programme delivery owing to limited core resources was a key concern, and was resulting in fewer direct funds being channelled to countries, as well as an inability to quantify those resources. More creative approaches should be adopted by United Nations agencies to augment their pool of resources. In that regard, Jamaica welcomed the increased focus on South-South and triangular cooperation.

89. **Ms. Bagdasarova** (Belarus) that much remained to be done to ensure the necessary conditions for the achievement of the ambitious 2030 Agenda; Belarus supported the need to reorganize the United Nations development system in order to increase its effectiveness. The process should be based on the universal instruments that defined the basic, internationally recognized principles of the entire development system, with a view to making the system more transparent and accountable and ensuring that

operational activities responded to the needs and priorities of recipient countries. National governments must have a primary role in determining policy for the achievement of sustainable development; the role of the United Nations development system should be to assist recipient countries in determining the optimal means of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account national characteristics.

90. A more systemic approach should be adopted to help middle-income countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, taking due account of the specific needs of those countries, in line with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. Belarus would welcome the adoption of a United Nations strategy on promoting sustainable development of middle-income countries and was counting on substantive support from the Secretariat in that regard. It was essential that the overall financial and technical assistance provided by the United Nations to middle-income countries was not reduced in the reorganization process.

91. Regional partnerships were a useful tool in promoting multilateral initiatives to identify optimum ways of attaining the 2030 Agenda. She drew attention in that regard to the regional conference to exchange experience on implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals to be held in Minsk in 2018.

92. The imbalance in core and non-core resources, which was a concern, might not only have an adverse effect on the reliability of the system, but could also lead to politicization. All entities involved in operational activities should seek additional sources of core funding, in order to ensure the stability of the entire development system and preserve its universal character. Efforts should be focused on improving the performance of existing mechanisms rather than creating additional bureaucratic structures and allocating additional financial resources to the institutional component of the system. The reorganization process should not increase the burden on recipient countries at the local level.

93. It was important to be mindful of the existing strengths of the system, ensure continuity of activities on the ground, and avoid reform for the sake of reform. The aim should be to adapt to new needs and challenges and to achieve tangible, targeted and results-based outcomes.

94. **Ms. Cerrato** (Honduras) said that South-South cooperation could offer effective and innovative solutions to the achievement of sustainable development and was an essential additional tool for the mobilization of the necessary resources for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Such cooperation was a manifestation of solidarity among the countries and peoples of the South;

flows of South-South cooperation had increased in recent years, mainly in such areas as technology transfer and exchanges of experience and experts.

95. South-South cooperation was vital for her country's efforts to achieve sustainable development. The growing number of projects with countries of the region demonstrated the true scope of such cooperation in a variety of diverse areas. Her Government's capacity to manage cooperation and maximize its impact had increased, and it had had been identifying and embedding good practices, lessons learned and country experiences, with a view to sharing them with others. In July 2017 it had been the first country to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Office for South-South Cooperation to promote the exchange of experience among developing countries. All United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies should continue working with countries to develop national capacity to maximize the impact of South-South cooperation.

96. **Mr. Biya** (Cameroon) said that any adaptation or repositioning of the United Nations development system could be decided upon only through a resolution negotiated at the intergovernmental level; no hasty decisions should be taken, and emphasis should be placed on alignment with national priorities. With productive sectors at the heart of the new development agenda, the capacities of the development system in such areas as energy, infrastructure, economic growth and industrialization should be strengthened. The temptation to move away from essential development issues must be avoided at all costs. The inclusion of such areas as peacebuilding or conflict prevention, which, while of great importance, were addressed in other mechanisms, would not respect the division of labour in the United Nations and might lead to the politicization of operational activities for development and violation of State sovereignty. Moreover, the limited resources allocated for development could not support the inclusion of s political issues in development mandates. Any reform process would be merely cosmetic unless the independence and impartiality of development system was restored, in particular by striking an appropriate balance between core and non-core resources. It would be difficult to support any proposal that would lead to an increase in staff and management costs to the detriment of development projects and programmes on the ground.

97. Cameroon would, however, support proposals aimed at strengthening the accountability of the United Nations development system towards Member States, including enhancing links between, on the one hand, governing bodies and the operational activities segment

of the Economic and Social Council, and on the other, the Committee for Programme and Coordination. Special attention should be devoted to partnerships; while they were a significant part of United Nations support for Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, mechanisms must be established to ensure their conformity with intergovernmental mandates.

98. **Mr. Castro Cordoba** (Costa Rica) said that, although bilateral cooperation had been the most important source of resources for development cooperation, multilateral cooperation played a vital role. At the multilateral level, continued efforts should be made to increase the impact of development cooperation by adopting a multidimensional approach to poverty eradication and sustainable development. The resources obtained through international cooperation should be used to achieve sustainable development among the most vulnerable populations and to develop and strengthen human capital. Structural gaps should be reduced, and, to that end, there must be a focus on efficiency, transparency, accountability and results-based management of international cooperation.

99. International financing of development was a priority issue; international cooperation must support capacity-building in developing countries, in particular through fulfilment of ODA commitments by developed countries. The level of financing should take into account the development level of each beneficiary, including income, institutional capacities and specific vulnerabilities. Concessionary financing should be increased, not only through new and greater sources of financing but also through a broadening of selection criteria by means of a multidimensional analysis of the needs of developing countries. The special characteristics of middle-income countries should be taken into account since the developing countries in that category were excluded from some forms of international cooperation, limiting significantly the additional resources available for sustained implementation of national policies.

100. Costa Rica, which was classified as a middle-income country, was basing its international cooperation strategy on building partnerships with countries of equal or lesser development, encouraging triangular cooperation and engaging with the private sector, civil society and academia. It would continue to be a recipient and provider of international technical cooperation, as provided for in its international cooperation policy 2014–2022. His delegation believed that South-South cooperation should be based on the principles of horizontality, consensus and equity.

101. **Mr. Abebe** (Ethiopia) said that the United Nations development system must undergo reform to become fit for purpose to support Member States, particularly the least developed countries, in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda. His delegation supported the reform agenda aimed at creating a more coherent, integrated, transparent, effective and efficient development system, and at repositioning the United Nations with the 2030 Agenda as the guiding framework. Reinforcing national leadership and ownership, ensuring country contextual responses and delivery, and making country-level delivery the litmus test for success should be the guiding principles of the reform process. His country looked forward to the December report of the Secretary-General, which should propose more detailed and comprehensive ideas for consideration by all Member States. A special focus should be given on how to secure sufficient and predictable core funding.

102. South-South cooperation had become a major source of development support for developing countries, expanding well beyond technical cooperation and exchange of knowledge to include trade, investment, infrastructure and connectivity, and had continued to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda. South-South cooperation was complementary to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation. The Office for South-South Cooperation should consult with Member States, particularly developing countries, in the process of preparing the United Nations system-wide South-South cooperation strategy. Ethiopia had continued to maximize the positive impacts of South-South cooperation in line with its development priorities, including in the areas of infrastructure and manufacturing, and hoped that a reformed United Nations development system would harness not only South-South cooperation but also North-South and triangular cooperation and other types of partnerships and collaboration in support of national efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, the Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.