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# PHILIPPINES

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## STATEMENT

Delivered by

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On

*Thematic Area: Technology Facilitation Mechanism and  
Other Science, Technology and Innovation Issues*

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*Thematic Area: Technology Facilitation Mechanism and Other Science,  
Technology and Innovations Issues*  
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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Like many of our colleague Member States here, the Philippines recognizes the critical role of technology, innovation and capacity building as critical drivers in promoting and achieving sustainable development. And indeed, I agree with the remark of the Chair in yesterday's session and our resource persons this morning that the way forward in treating the technology aspect to ensure a greater effectivity of the means of implementation framework of the Post 2015 agenda and successfully achieving the SDGs is not as consistent and solid as the agreements expressed in relation to the financing aspect. The primary reason, which we all know Mr. Chair, relate to the diverse issues and, hence, the technology needs of countries that somehow limit their access and their getting equal shares from the benefits of scientific knowledge and powerful technologies and innovations. It should be noted, Mr. Chair, that access to essential and environmentally sound technologies is uneven, not only across countries but even within countries themselves. In addition, the fragmentation of the system has been stressed, adding to the complexity and, thus, in finding effective solutions to move forward. This is especially so with the private sector in possession of the costly and highly demanded technologies.

For developing countries, like the Philippines, the availability of financial resources again comes to fore as a constraining factor not only for technology dissemination but for the development of clean, smart and environmentally sound technologies that respond more precisely to new problems that are quickly emerging.

I am delighted to report Mr. Chair that in the last 3-4 years, the Philippines has improved in terms of technological readiness and innovation indices as indicated in Global Competitiveness Report of the 2013-2014 World Economic Forum (WEF). From being in the 95th place among 139 countries in 2010, the country moved up to the 77th place out of 148 countries in 2013 in technology index. Likewise, it climbed from 111th out of 139 countries in 2010 to 69th out of 148 countries in 2013 in innovation index. We attribute these gains from the increased recognition of the contribution of research & development and mainstreaming it in our policy formulation and planning processes. Enhancing local R&D capabilities towards the development and making available more transformative, cutting-edge and sustainable technologies to further improve productivity, support advances in health, promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, and reduce environmental impacts and damages, among others, sits high in our national priorities.

We, however, know that our current efforts to make RD and E more prominent in our national agenda are still not enough to initiate and facilitate the transformation we need and we want. In this regard, we find

the provision of the Outcome Document that enhance commitment and mechanisms to strengthen the science, technology and innovation, both at the international and national levels, timely and responsive to address this major challenge of our need to enhance capacities and promote more equal access and use of new, sound and relevant environmental technologies.

In this regard, Mr. Chair, we emphasize the importance of the three key enablers as follows: (i) improved partnership and coordination through technology facilitation mechanism; ii) development of a global technological innovation platform; and iii) adequate financing for development, dissemination and transfer of sustainable technologies.

Strong global partnership in technology facilitation will indeed enhance the coordination and cooperation, hopefully to include the private sector, to address the fragmentation of technology transfer and dissemination and ensure coherence and synergies of initiatives and programs on technology development and dissemination across international bodies and countries. We emphasize that in finalizing the modality of the technology facilitation mechanism, we deem it important to consider the mechanism's potential role in improving data generation and in providing policy guidance to national governments in strengthening their respective R&D initiatives and programs to respond to their peculiar issues and needs.

On the second enabler, the establishment of an online global platform will hopefully further enhance existing efforts in mapping out existing and available technologies and create awareness of technologies that countries could consider, adjust and adopt to fill up their needs and gaps. We suggest the inclusion of lessons learned and best practices of countries using sustainable technologies to be an integral part of knowledge and information-sharing platform. While barriers to technology dissemination such as IPR should not get into the way of our discussions, I feel that appropriate processes should be put in place to handle them.

The third enabler, Mr. Chair, is on the creation of innovative funds. Such fund could indeed help address the funding gaps needed to enhance capacities, particularly of the developing countries, to develop relevant and sustainable technologies that address their own peculiar needs. Sources of such funds, mechanisms to access them, and monitoring their utilization should be among the issues for careful discussion among Member States.

Mr. Chair, in behalf of the Philippines, I once again express our commitment to actively participate and collaborate with our colleague Member States in the development and finalization of this component as well as the other components that will ensure efficient means of implementation of the Post 2015 agenda.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.