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Foro Político de Alto Nivel sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible
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GOBIERNO DE LA REPÚBLICA DE
PANAMÁ

Statement of the Permanent Mission of Panama to the United Nations

Ministerial Segment of the High-Level Political Forum
under the auspices of ECOSOC

New York, July 2015

Mr. President,

Panama welcomes your efforts in convening this Ministerial Segment of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development under the auspices of ECOSOC.

We are confident that this meeting will greatly influence a strengthened institutional governance to ensure that the Sustainable Development Goals are a success. It is only through cooperation that we will be able to address the challenges we will face in implementing the "rio+20" outcome "the future we want".

Having a strong High-Level Political Forum, as per the Rio+20 outcome document and resolution 67/290 will be instrumental in moving forward the implementation of Sustainable Development and the integration of its economic, social and environmental dimensions.

Mr. President,

Panama reiterates its commitment to strengthen the science-policy interface through inclusive, evidence-based and transparent scientific assessments, as well as improved access to reliable, relevant and timely data in areas related to the three dimensions of sustainable development, building on existing mechanisms.

In this regard, we stress on the importance of capacity building for developing countries, including in conducting their own monitoring and assessments.

To serve this important purpose, Panama has proposed setting up a regional logistics hub for the United Nations that will serve as a base to allow effective cooperative action in the region.

A regional hub – to be based in the capital, Panama City – would strengthen coordination between the 16 UN agencies already operating in the country and would also facilitate the transfer of best practices amongst countries in the region.

The regional logistics hub for the United Nations that will serve as a base to allow the quick distribution of humanitarian assistance to those in need across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Panama's privileged geographical location combined with its existing infrastructure make it an ideal candidate for a regional hub to advance the implementation of the United Nation's post-2015 agenda.

The coming years will be critical for the future of the planet. Achieving the SDGs will only be possible through international cooperation and support. The ambitious agenda we have set can only be achieved if all the countries of the world join forces to fulfill the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Panama is fully engaged in the Post-2015 process in a spirit of cooperation and flexibility.

I thank you, Mr. President.