

Statement by Mrs. Fortuna Dibaco ,Representative of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to The United Nations, on the theme: “Means of Implementation; Global Partnership for achieving Sustainable Development” (New York, December 10 -11/ 2013)

Co-Chair,

I would like to thank you for convening this sixth session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, which deals with the Means of Implementation; Global Partnership for achieving sustainable development.

I would also like to thank the UN Technical Support Team for their excellent job in providing us with the “TST Issues Brief” which is designed to facilitate our work. I am also grateful for the contribution made by the Panelists who introduced the theme.

I would like to associate myself with the statements delivered by the Permanent Representatives of Fiji, Gambia and Benin, on behalf of the G77 and China, the African Group, and LDCs, respectively.

Co-Chair,

The post-2015 sustainable development agenda requires a renewed and strengthened global partnership for mobilizing the means of implementation that address the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in an integrated manner while making poverty eradication its overarching objective.

No doubt, the realization of sustained economic growth in general and sustainable development goals in particular, requires adequate means of implementation. These include financial resource, technology transfer and development, capacity development, regional integration, trade and market access, south-south cooperation. We also recognize that they are not mutually exclusive and should be employed in complementary manner for efficient and effective delivery.

We are of the view that, in our deliberation for the post 2015 development agenda, there is a need to build on existing commitments of the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration, the Rio+20 Means of Implementation as well as the Bussan Global Partnership.

Obviously, it is difficult to think of the possibility of bringing about sustainable development without the mobilization of domestic resource. In this regard, we recognize the importance of domestic saving, improvement in public revenue collection and the significance of private capital flows as sources for development financing.

Ethiopia supports the need to develop Sustainable development financing which comes from domestic and external sources, and includes both public and private flows. Public and private sources should be seen as complements, not substitutes, as each has unique objectives and attributes.

Here we also wish to underline the importance of an enabling international environment and effective global partnership in the mobilization of resources. It is also critical that we need to do our part to improve governance and make the investment climate attractive in order to enhance domestic and foreign investment. Furthermore the SDGs should promote more conducive environment for trade and investment.

Mr. Co-chair, we in the developing world, and the least developed among us and Africa in particular, face the challenge of effectively addressing illicit financial flows. In this regard, we request the international community to do more to track, report, and stop and repatriate such flows by stepping up effectiveness of global regulatory and institutional frameworks.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) remains critical and an important source of public financing for developing countries, particularly for the least developed countries. The role of ODA will continue to be a catalyst for unlocking growth potential and reducing poverty. However, the 0.7 per cent of gross national income (GNI) ODA target, including the 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent target for least developed countries, remains largely unfulfilled. ODA has been decline for two consecutive years since 2011 by a total of 6 per cent in real terms.

Ethiopia calls on development partners to fulfill their ODA commitments. Its reallocation to the most needed and intensified efforts to scale up and to reverse the declining trend of ODA should be the immediate task in this regard.

The role of remittance as a source of development finance should be carefully examined. The primary use of remittances is to finance purchases of food and other consumables. As countries develop, the share of remittances in total resource flows will decrease, with the share of domestic and other external resources becoming more important. However bringing down the cost of remittances should be given the utmost importance.

As the implementation and achievement of all SDG goals depends on their means of implementation which are focused and easy to monitor. Ethiopia therefore recommends the need to have separate goal on means of implementation in the formulation of the sustainable development goals. We also support the inclusion of a specific goal on science, technology, and innovation and capacity development as they are important driver of productivity.

Finally, Mr. Co-chair, We fully agree with the proposal contained in TST document that Implementation of the SDGs must be supported through clear monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. In this connection at the global level, the UN could play a critical role in providing the global platform for reporting and reviewing, including through a strengthened monitoring and accountability framework. With its regular reviews starting in 2016, the High Level Political Forum (HLPF), under the auspices of the ECOSOC, could act as the central place to review progress on the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives.

I thank you.

