



ARMENIA

April 21-24, 2015

Informal meeting of the plenary on the process of intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, pursuant to resolution 69/244 and decisions 69/550 and 69/555, focusing on the sustainable development goals, targets and indicators

Remarks by Sofya Simonyan, Permanent Mission of Armenia to United Nations

Mr. Co-facilitator,

Thank you for continuing to support this process and for holding an integrated session on the relationship between the FfD and post-2015 development agenda focusing on the means of implementation and global partnerships.

As outlined by the Deputy Prime Minister of Armenia during the high level meeting with the international financial institutions this week, there is a need to revisit the conventional approach to financing in view of a greater complexity that can be observed in the global finance landscape. While public finance still represents the major source of funding for development, its role seems to be evolving, and the new forms of blended finance of both government and donor-raised money are being increasingly explored to increase the leverage from the private sector, especially in low-middle income countries. With a view to addressing the issue of projects bankability, we are currently actively working with the international financial institutions to ensure public-private solutions to our infrastructure projects.

For a landlocked country facing serious structural constraints, the importance of well-developed transport networks and infrastructure cannot be overestimated. We endorse the statement on behalf of the group of the landlocked developing countries delivered earlier this week, and we believe that the integration of the Vienna Programme of Action and its six priority areas into the post-2015 will help promote a sustainable and inclusive development agenda that leaves no one behind. We support the view that coherent steps should be taken to ensure a more efficient use of transportation networks and infrastructure to promote trade, facilitate investment and cooperation, enhance cross-border transportation and improve regional connectivity.

As mentioned by our delegation during the session on the Declaration held in February, we believe that the importance of effective mobilization and efficient use of external and local resources, including financial and non-financial resources, should be highlighted in the Declaration of the post-2015 agenda. This applies also to the importance of effective use of the existing resources, including existing infrastructure.

Mr. Co-facilitator,

Infrastructure development is a high priority for the Government of Armenia, duly reflected in the recently adopted Strategy for Prospective Development for the upcoming decade. Developed in

close consultations with civil society and international organizations, the Strategy aims to scale-up the impact of multi-stakeholder partnerships in addressing the issues related to adequate financing gaps. The Strategy also aims to ensure a continuous improvement of business environment to promote entrepreneurship, innovation and employment, with a key focus on regional and rural development, agriculture and environment.

Being a country with a long history of migration, Armenia has been exploring sustainable multi-stakeholder partnerships that extend far beyond remittances and monetary contributions by fostering the positive link between well-managed migration and development. A new approach to job mobility and demand-driven circular labour migration can significantly enhance the development potential for both the sending and receiving societies and help reduce poverty and tackle inequalities on a broader scale. Agreements about free labor mobility among countries as well as multilateral partnerships frameworks can foster the link between migration and development by promoting well-managed, regulated migration in a secure environment. In this regard, we view mobility and transportation central to the long-term development.

Mr. Co-facilitator,

In our efforts to promote a more sustainable development of the private sector, it is extremely important that along with limitations in finance we look at the various barriers to trade as well – closed borders, blockades, unduly discriminating trade regimes are issues of concern and should be addressed on a global level. We believe that the Declaration should also reflect a commitment to a revitalized global partnership that will help ensure a continuous improvement of an enabling environment through enhanced international, regional and cross-border cooperation to promote investment, entrepreneurship, innovation and employment.

I thank you, Mr. Co-facilitator