



Statement

by

**H.E. Dr. Nawaf Salam
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations**

at the

**Post-2015 intergovernmental negotiations
“Means of implementation and global partnership
for sustainable development”**

New York, April 21, 2015

Check against delivery

Lebanon aligns itself with the statement delivered by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Distinguished co-facilitators,

The linkages and synergies between the Post-2015 and the FFD processes cannot be understated, and the closer we progress towards a consensus on the Addis Final Document the closer we get to an agreement on the Means of Implementation for the Post-2015 Agenda. Means of Implementation, both as a stand-alone goal and also within goals, is an integral part of the agenda and an essential component towards its effective realization.

While recognizing that the current discussion within the FFD framework has expanded beyond the traditional components of financing, trade, debt and systemic issues towards tackling other components as identified within Means of Implementation by the Open Working Group Report, such as capacity building and technology, we believe that more elaboration of the two latter components is required in both processes.

We acknowledge that the implementation of the Post-2015 Agenda requires a comprehensive approach that bolsters the financial and non-financial capacities of developing countries, drawing on resources in the public and private spheres, and on the domestic and international levels. Each country will remain responsible for setting its sustainable development priorities and policies, but an enhanced global partnership is necessary to strengthen those national efforts. This global partnership must be complemented by a multi-stakeholder partnership that includes the private sector, civil society, academic and research institutions and local authorities.

Distinguished co-facilitators,

It is our conviction that ODA flows remain a key source for financing sustainable development, particularly for LDC's, and play an effective role as catalysts for private investment; hence the necessity for developed countries to meet their ODA commitments.

We also underscore the importance of domestic resource mobilization for financing sustainable development, through enhancing tax revenues, improving the efficiency of public expenditures and developing domestic capital markets in ways that promote growth and equity.

Domestic efforts must be accompanied by international support for capacity building, as well as increased global cooperation in addressing harmful tax practices that erode domestic resource bases in developing countries.

The need to leverage private finance for long term investment in developing countries must also be emphasized, particularly for infrastructure, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME's), and public goods. It should be noted here that this requires creating an enabling investment environment and improving risk intermediation through the involvement of Multilateral Development Banks (MDB's).

The creation of an enabling domestic environment is not only crucial for attracting private finances, but also for drawing public finances, building capacities, technology facilitation and fostering innovation, all of which are paramount for the successful implementation of the Agenda. An enabling environment means ensuring peace and security, the respect and protection of human rights, gender equality, inclusiveness, good governance, and national accountability based on the rule of law. It also means the existence of sound and transparent national policies and effective regulatory frameworks.

Finally, I would like to emphasize the necessity of addressing the growing challenge of financing the response to humanitarian crises within the framework of both the FFD and the Post-2015 Agenda. Today, and in different parts of the world, whether in South East Asia, or East Africa, or the Middle East, humanitarian crises continue to have a devastating impact on the sustainable development and security of countries affected by natural disasters, conflict and cross border mass displacement of refugees. Tackling these crises through the narrow channel of humanitarian assistance has proven to be insufficient and inadequate in the past few years. There is a growing call on donors, international financial institutions and UN agencies to provide affected countries, including middle income countries, with adequate development assistance that would meet their needs, strengthen their resilience and alleviate the impact of those crises.

Thank you.