23 July 2015

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Global Partnership and Means of Implementation

Statement by Kushla Munro, Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

To begin, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is a finely balanced outcome that reflects consensus on mobilising sources of finance, the means of cooperation and the enabling regulatory and policy environments that will nurture and enable sustainable development. The Addis outcome is the result of months of intense negotiations – preceded by detailed analytical work from the intergovernmental experts committee and others. It has been agreed by our leaders. In reaching this agreement, all of us stepped beyond our comfort zones and compromised.

I have heard many states welcome Addis and so we should. The Addis outcome comprehensively incorporates all the financial and non-financial means necessary to realise our collective ambition for the post-2015 development agenda.

Mr Co-facilitators, in light of the successful conclusion of the financing for development negotiations, the question you have rightly asked of us is what is the relationship between the post-2015 MOI and Addis, and how do we characterise this relationship in our document?

To answer these questions, we offer the following views.

First, articulating ‘the how’ is just as important as explaining the ‘why’ and the ‘what’. Revitalising the global partnership, and ensuring we draw in all development partners, will be critical to the success of our agenda.

Second, we note the Addis agenda captures and goes beyond the package on MOI goal and targets proposed by the Sustainable Development Goals Open Working Group. Addis is a more ambitious and far richer account of how we will collectively come together to deliver the post-2015 agenda within a comprehensive framework.

The Addis outcome recognises that we need a new toolkit and provides us with one. It tells us that future financing of development relies on: domestic resource mobilisation;
access to finance; access to markets; and, importantly, the crowding-in of private sector investment. It recognises the role ODA in the modern financing for development environment.

It also includes new commitments on concrete ‘Action Areas’ that will contribute to directly to the achievement of the SDGs such as the establishment of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, new Global Infrastructure Forum and new Social Compact.

So to answer your question – we think there are two main options that should be further considered.

Given that Addis is a richer account of how we will collectively come together to deliver the post-2015 agenda and comprehensively addresses Goal 17 and all the MOI targets, we could simply endorse Addis as the most effective and comprehensive means to achieve the SDGs and not go any further.

This has the strong advantage of not unpicking or undermining the delicate political balance and package agreed just one week ago in Addis, and thus avoids unnecessary and protracted negotiations in this process.

Alternatively, we could work through the current text and try to weave the appropriate references to Addis and language on global partnership together. This could be achieved in no more than three paragraphs.

We could go down this track. But this would be clunky, risk unnecessary protracted negotiations and potentially undermine what our leaders agreed in Addis just last week.

I would add that if we go down this path we would not see the rationale or value of pulling out the Technology Facilitation Mechanism from the Addis outcome over and above the other important initiatives agreed in the Addis Agenda.

And, as others have before us, the repetition of the 62 targets and goal 17 in chapters 2 and 3 serves no purpose. In fact, the duplication diminishes the coherence and clarity of our document.