

**Statement by Ambassador Taye Atske-silassie, Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations, on “Multilateralism after COVID 19: what kind of UN do we need at the 75th anniversary?” during The 2020 ECOSOC HLPF High Level Segment (17 July 2020, New York)**

**Thank you, Madam President!**

Fully observing all protocols, I would like to thank the President of ECOSOC for convening a dedicated meeting on the topic of Multilateralism after COVID-19 which is an opportune moment to outline a blueprint of the United Nations, building on its almost 75 years of existence, and that meet our aspirations of complementing countries endeavor of addressing multidimensional challenges, in conformity with the objectives and principles of the UN Charter.

As it has been reiterated by many, at the beginning of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the pre-existing multi-dimensional challenges; and has posed an impediment to the accelerated implementation the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other intergovernmentally agreed development goals.

**Madame chair,**

The multilayered impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic will certainly go well beyond 2020, and it is already eroding the development gains achieved over many decades, including for the first time in decades, the trend of poverty reduction is being reversed, and particularly those group of countries already at the risk of being left behind are sliding back further.

Against this backdrop, implementing the 2030 Agenda and envisioning beyond 2030, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other intergovernmentally agreed development goals, through reinvigorated multilateralism, where the United Nations complementing our national, regional and sub-regional efforts, should be our collective roadmap, to respond and build back better, prevent future pandemics, and achieve a sustainable, resilient, and prosperous future for all. Every effort should also be made to leave no country and no one behind, and reach the furthest first, among others through full and accelerated implementation of the agreed development goals of these group of countries.

It goes without saying that this requires greater emphasis on strengthening the means of implementation, inter alia, with full implementation of the Addis Agenda, particularly in the areas of finance, international trade, technology transfer and capacity-building.

**In conclusion,** I would like to accentuate the importance of creating a global environment conducive for development, by leveraging sustainable financing options, revitalized global partnerships, and long-term investments for sustainable development.

**I thank you!**