

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Milo Djukanović,
Prime Minister of Montenegro**

**At the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Global
Partnership for Development in the Context of Job Creation**

New York, 24 September 2013

Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to address the inaugural meeting of the High Level Political Forum in Sustainable Development. We have before us a huge challenge to create an ambitious and action-oriented post-2015 development framework that calls not just for a new vision, but also for economic transformations and a new global partnership. Montenegro's readiness to accomplish goals and tasks set by the Forum is unquestionable.

The global economic crisis has pointed to an increasing interdependence and complexity of the new multipolar financial order. Therefore, in order to achieve success, the development framework must include all, both developing and developed countries.

Least has done in terms of achievement of millennium goal 8. This imposes upon us an obligation to seriously analyze the reasons for its non-achievement and thus determine more realistic tasks within a renewed global partnership for the post-2015 development agenda.

Our primary goal should be a more efficient coordination and distribution of development aid, channeling of resources, financial and human, into priority areas so as to enhance the level of development of countries and develop capacities for efficient management of development resources. To this end we encourage creation of innovative forms of development financing within a renewed global partnership, as well as providing support to government for capacity building and other ways for mobilizing national resources. On her integration path Montenegro is increasingly a beneficiary of international programmes and funds within the framework of trans-border and transnational cooperation that are aimed at addressing common issues and strengthening capacities of all the involved institutions. In cooperation with the UN system we are determined to define an Action Plan for reduction of youth unemployment within the newly-formed UN framework for accelerating implementation of the MDG's.

The primary interest of all countries and governments, regardless of their size, is to create conditions for increasing employment and creating new jobs. Further efforts to eradicate extreme poverty should be based on this. We are aware that there can be no new jobs without economic development/ But there will likewise be no long-term growth unless that growth is 'green' and therefore sustainable.

The vision of future development of Montenegro implies partnership with institutions of science and the business sector. Linking education and the labour market, improving entrepreneurship-, innovative- and research –oriented character of the education system are guidelines for job creation. In this process the business sector has a particularly important role to play given that, at the time of the financial and economic crisis, it is the companies that included the principles of sustainability in their operation that have shown to be more resilient to the negative impact of the crisis and have found it easier to maintain their position in the market.

I therefore regard as particularly important the role that the global partnership should play in facilitating access to scientific and technological innovations as a precondition of progress in all countries and all the development fields.

Montenegro is about to achieve most of the tasks from the Millennium Declaration by 2015 and she is continuing to be a constructive partner in global efforts for achieving a comprehensive sustainable development. As the recently held panel 'UN at a Time of Sustainable Development' confirmed: "only through global cooperation can individual countries overcome the interdependent crises of extreme poverty, economic instability, social inequality and degradation of the environment." I believe that the High Level Forum will fulfill the expectations and contribute to an efficient implementation of decisions in the field of sustainable development. Cooperation and responsibility are key to our common success.

Thank you.