

**Statement by Denmark at ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment, Opening and high-level dialogue with the UN Secretary-General**

DPR Erik Laursen, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN  
14 May 2024, 10:30 – 13:00

- Secretary-General, Excellencies,
- Thank you Secretary General, for your report and for your continued future-oriented leadership.
- Thank you DSG Amina Mohammed and partners across the whole of the UN Development System for the progress made.
- Thanks to the Tunisian ECOSOC Vice-Presidency for chairing this Operational Activities for Development Segment.
- With this statement Denmark aligns with that of the EU.
- From the SDG Summit in 2023 to the Summit of the Future, the operational UN Development System translates high level ambitions into action and tangible impact on the ground.
- Denmark remains committed to work closely together to turn the 2030 Agenda into reality and to leave no one behind. This includes working with the UN Development System, which receives approximately one quarter of the 0,7% of Denmark's GNI allocated to ODA.
- Your report on UN Development System deliveries in the preceding QCPR period, presents valuable insight into both UNDS reform progress and current system capacity to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.
- We welcome the increase in governments experiencing the UN Country Team offer to be relevant to national SDG priorities and needs. With 96% considering UN Country Teams to effectively respond to national priorities for SDG delivery, and 94% that UN Cooperation Frameworks align closely with their needs.

- The fact that host governments find climate change to be among the most effective areas of engagement with the UNDS, clearly shows the UN Development System's potential for addressing the greatest challenges of our time. Denmark supports your call to further scale up mainstreaming of environmental considerations into UN Development System programming and policy advise.
- We are pleased to note that host countries see UN entities as collaborating across the humanitarian and development pillars. In contrast, the reported drop in Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams who perceive there to be close collaboration across the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding pillars, should stir reflection.
- Denmark supports the relationship between the Peacebuilding Commission and ECOSOC, and see the Operational Activities Segment as a relevant platform for strengthening the linkages between peace and development.
- We applaud UN Development System reform progress. Yet, the fact that less than 30% of Resident Coordinators consider all entity programmes to be aligned with the cooperation framework, indicates that reform ambitions are not yet fulfilled. We hear the Secretary General's call to Member States to continue to engage on this topic including through entity governing bodies.
- Lastly, Denmark welcomes the now permanently functional UN 'Sustainable Development Group System-Wide Evaluation Office'. The evaluation reports issued by this office to date, demonstrate the potentials harnessed in stronger system-integration across the UN Development System.
- Thank you.