



PHILIPPINES

Statement to be delivered by

Mr. Jesus Enrique G. Garcia II
Second Committee Expert and Minister

ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment
14 May 2024

Mr. Chair,

We align with the statement of the G77 and China.

We thank the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary General for the comprehensive reports on the implementation of the QCPR and UN Development System reform. The Philippines recognizes, with appreciation, the positive results achieved by the reinvigorated RC System and the repositioned UNDS.

The Philippines recently signed a new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2024-2028). It was formulated through a consultative process anchored in a spirit of partnership for the SDGs, based on national development plans and priorities – such as enhancing human capital investments for innovation; supporting attainment of upper-middle-income status; and building climate and disaster resilience.

We recently convened the 1st Joint Steering Committee of the UNSDCF and would like to highlight the following points:

1. The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework is a useful coordinating and integration tool that can generate higher impact support for developing countries.
2. Consultation on the Framework was a learning experience for various government agencies and members of the UN Country team, contributing to deeper dialogue, understanding, and cooperation.
3. National ownership, coherence, transparency, and accountability must be ensured. We expect that Resident Coordinators be guided by clear reporting lines, respect national sovereignty and processes, and work hand-in-hand with governments.
4. Fully aligning the Cooperation Framework with UN agencies' country programme documents remains a challenge. Better coordination of schedules and working methods with governing bodies of UN agencies is encouraged.
5. Effective governance and monitoring of the Cooperation Framework is crucial to ensure support remains tailored and driven by needs and realities of countries on the ground.
6. Lastly, we note with concern the funding gap and need for a renewed and ambitious funding compact, primary focus of which should be national development priorities of developing countries.

In conclusion, the Philippines supports UNDS reform and looks forward to joint efforts to further strengthen the UN's delivery of much needed development cooperation.

Thank you.