

## **Opening statements**

### **Statement by the President of the UN Pledging Conference**

**Excellencies,**

**Distinguished delegates,**

**This will be the first Pledging Conference for UN Development Activities since the adoption of General Assembly decision 75/511 that aims to renew the Conference and make it more fit for purpose. In addition to changing the timing of the Pledging Conference from November to shortly after the ECOSOC Operational activities for development segment, the decision also adjusted the focus of the Conference on activities that the United Nations system delivers together.**

**During today's Pledging Conference, we will hear from three distinguished panelists in what constitutes a new model for this Conference. Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs will provide you with an update of the latest trends in the funding of the United Nations development system. We will hear also from His Excellency, Mr. Abdulaziz Alwasil, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on how his country is investing in**

**sustainable development in partnership with the United Nations. Finally, Ms. Jennifer Topping, Executive Coordinator of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office of UNDP will make a presentation on the recent trends in funding of inter-agency pooled funds and the importance of these funds.**

**Today's Conference is an opportunity for Member States to provide reactions to these presentations, as well as deliver national statements. This is an opportunity for States to highlight contributions governments have made to the UN development system, including through core funding.**

**In the coming days, I will be circulating a written summary of today's proceedings. I hope that over the next three hours we will lay the foundations for a more impactful and dynamic Pledging Conference going forward.**

**Thank you.**