Permanent Mission of India to the UN New York

United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities (17 May 2024, 3:00-6:00pm)

Statement delivered by Ms Petal Gahlot, First Secretary

Chair,

Please allow me to begin by appreciating the organisation of the UN Pledging Conference for Development Activities in its new form.

My delegation welcomes the broader scope of the Conference to include all UN system entities with operational activities for development. This will help accurately capture the contributions that Member States, especially those from the Global South, are making towards the UN Development System.

Speaking specifically of the contributions that India has made to the UNDS since the last Pledging Conference in 2020, India has been a regular contributor to UNDS resources. In 2021, India contributed over 141 million USD to the UNDS, which shot up to over 207 million USD in 2022. A comparable contribution is estimated to have been made by India in 2023.

Some specific contributions that India made during the 78th session of the General Assembly are worth highlighting. These include contributions of 300 thousand USD, each, for the Fourth International Conference of the Small Island Developing States and the Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries. During this period, India contributed nearly 4 million USD to UNP's core resources and is one of the top contributors to UNDP core resources among the non-OECD/DAC donors.

Additionally, the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, established in 2017, is a notable example of South-South cooperation with the multilateral system. Sponsored by the Government of India and implemented through the UNDS, with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) as the coordinating partner, the Fund supports projects that advance all SDGs.

The Fund particularly welcomes proposals from LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and countries affected by disasters, and supports projects that are in alignment with the 2030 Agenda.

The Fund places a priority on national ownership and leadership, equality, sustainability, development of local capacity and mutual benefit.

A total of \$100 million over the next decade has been committed by GOI for the Fund. Subsequently, in April 2018, to support fellow Commonwealth developing countries, India established a separate Commonwealth Window under the India-UNDP Fund for which it

committed an additional \$50 million over the next five years. Thus, the total amount committed to the India-UNDP Fund stands at US\$ 150 million in support of 78 projects in 55 countries at present.

I wish to reiterate India's commitment to advancing the work of the UNDS and being a reliable and trustworthy partner.

I thank you.
