



Republic of Rwanda  
Permanent Mission of Rwanda  
to The United Nations

## **Statement by Rwanda**

**By lead discussant**

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ECOSOC Segment: “Effective Accountability: UN System Evaluation”**

**May 22, 2025**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Excellencies, Colleagues,

I’m pleased to contribute to this strategic conversation on effective accountability within the UN system.

This is a moment for all of us to reflect, to recalibrate, and to guide effective future UN’s development support.

The adoption of General Assembly resolution 79/226 sends a very clear signal:

**That:** The UN development system must deliver with greater coherence, efficiency, and importantly measurable impact.

Rwanda approaches this discussion in a pragmatic and evidence-based way.

We’ve seen real progress since the repositioning of the UN development system.

The strengthened Resident Coordinator system has helped align better with our national priorities, and we're seeing more strategic engagement from the UN Country Team.

This has made a real difference especially in cross-cutting areas like climate resilience, youth empowerment, and digital innovation.

But more clarity is needed on the accountability of Heads of Agencies to the Resident Coordinator. For the system to truly operate as one, there must be clear and enforceable lines of accountability that empower the Resident Coordinator to lead effectively, including in resource mobilization and implementation.

We must also ensure that resource mobilization is not fragmented by agency but instead aligned around common priorities and national plans—so that the system delivers collectively **AS ONE** and not through siloed, pilot-driven approaches.

Only then can we ensure a stronger focus on national development priorities that deliver sustainable impact and maximize country ownership and space.

But let me be clear: real accountability takes more than institutional reform.

It demands a cultural change across the system.

Evaluations must be timely, independent, and fully integrated into strategic planning.

They should not be an end in themselves; they must drive real decisions, budget shifts, and course corrections.

**Mr President**

In Rwanda, we place a high value on mutual accountability.

Meaning that accountability must flow in all directions:

- within UN entities,
- across the development system,
- and between the UN and Member States.

**This is about shared responsibility for results.**

As Lead Discussant, I'd like to invite you all to reflect on three questions:

**First**—Are current evaluation practices genuinely informing strategic decisions and course corrections?

**Second**—What concrete steps are being taken to strengthen the authority and capacity of Resident Coordinators to lead system-wide accountability?

**And third**—How can we incentivize greater collaboration across mandates, across agencies, and across funding streams to unlock the full potential of the UN development system?

Let's be bold again: there remains a persistent gap between ambition and delivery.

Yes, over 160 UN Country Teams now operate under Cooperation Frameworks aligned with the SDGs.

**But implementation remains uneven.**

**Joint programming is still the exception, not the norm.**

**And too many Resident Coordinators remain under-resourced to lead effectively.**

**Mr. President**

Rwanda is committed to a UN development system that is not just accountable but transformative.

One that delivers at the speed and scale that today's challenges demand.

Let's work together to build a system that is:

- coherent in design,
- efficient in delivery,
- and impactful in results.

Thank you.