

**DIALOGUE WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL ON
THE UNSDG CHAIR'S REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATION OFFICE AND THE RESIDENT
COORDINATOR SYSTEM: 21 MAY 2025; 10:00HOURS TO
13:00 HOURS (2 TO 3 MINUTES)**

Thank you Chair,

We thank the UNSDG Chair for the comprehensive report on the Development Coordination Office, and the Resident Coordinator System.

The Resident Coordinator system is not just a coordination mechanism. It is the backbone of our collective action at country level, bringing together all UN Agencies and strengthening cooperation between the UN Country Teams and Governments.

In the case of Zimbabwe, the Zimbabwe UN Sustainable Development Framework has contributed to structured and predictable cooperation, and has enabled effective channeling of UN assistance in support of the Government economic blueprint, the National Development Strategy I, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Going forward, it is our hope that, with the ongoing review, under the UN80 Initiative cluster on Development, the Resident Coordinator System will be further strengthened with the concomitant allocation of appropriate resources. We reiterate that any cost-saving measures should be equitably implemented, without prejudice to ongoing development programmes in particular, in developing countries.

Zimbabwe reiterates the importance of aligning UN support with national development programmes. It is our expectation that Resident Coordinators will continue facilitating collaboration between Governments and the United Nations, and ensure that programmes and initiatives complement Governments' efforts to transform the lives of the citizens.

In Zimbabwe, the first cycle of our National Development Strategy is coming to an end this year, with the current cycle of the Sustainable Development Framework ending in 2026. Zimbabwe commends the UN System for providing technical support as we finalise the elaboration of the second cycle of our development strategy, with work at an advanced stage to develop the successor Sustainable Development Framework, which will be aligned to NDS II.

Chair,

One of the major hindrances to the achievement of the SDGs is inadequate funding. Due to unilateral coercive measures, countries such as Zimbabwe do not have access to concessional international funding. Whilst domestic resource mobilization remains a valuable tool to secure funding, resources remain insufficient, compounded by debt overhang, which often compels countries in debt distress to redirect resources from development initiatives towards servicing debts. We call on Resident Coordinators to redouble efforts to access pooled funds to support SDG implementation in their duty stations.

In conclusion, Zimbabwe reiterates its support for the strengthening of the Resident Coordinator System. We look forward to continued collaboration with the UN System to advance development, including the implementation of the SDGs.