



PHILIPPINES

Statement to be delivered by

Ambassador and Permanent Representative Antonio M. Lagdameo

High-level interactive dialogue with the United Nations Secretary-General

ECOSOC 2023 Operational Activities for Development Segment

*“Guiding United Nations development system’s support in response
to interlinked crises and to accelerate progress towards
the Sustainable Development Goals”*

Tuesday, 23 May 2023, 11:00AM – 1:00PM

ECOSOC Chamber

Thank you, Chair.

My delegation aligns with the statements of both the G77 and China and the Like-Minded Group on Middle-Income Countries, including on thanking the Secretary General and his team for the comprehensive and analytical report on the QCPR and related documents.

We also thank the UN Country Team in the Philippines and you, Secretary General, for the support and cooperation extended to our country in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic and its multidimensional impacts.

We welcome the inclusive and transparent consultative process on the RC system results framework and look forward to its endorsement. We also welcome efforts to mobilize means of implementation for the SDGs by connecting expertise across the system and convening partners under the leadership of the Resident Coordinators.

We join the serious concerns expressed on the funding situation of the RC system and fully supports any initiative by the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to ensure sustainable, predictable and adequate funding for the RC system.

This dialogue is very timely for the Philippines as we are currently in the process of crafting our new Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework with the United Nations, which we will ensure to be country-driven. We also see the Framework as a nation branding tool, that can shape the way the international community perceives the Philippines through the strategic priorities highlighted in the Framework.

In this regard, we wish to underline the importance for the UN Country Teams to continue providing programme countries such as the Philippines with tailored support by aligning its programmes with nationally determined development policies and priorities, such as those detailed in the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028.

We aim to bolster the existing cooperation between the Philippines and the UN agencies to leverage their relevant expertise and experience, and foster innovation and joint initiatives to (a) ensure food security, (b) modernize agriculture and agribusiness, (c) accelerate climate action, (d) intensify biodiversity conservation, and (e) scale up the implementation of sustainable consumption and production approaches and circular economy solutions.

Mr. Secretary-General, you can count on our delegation and country's continued strong support to you and the UN Development System. We thank you for your continued strong support to all developing countries, including middle-income countries.

I also wish to congratulate and thank Ambassador Albert Chimbindi for his Chairmanship and excellent reorganization of this Segment's program to ensure its continued relevance and responsiveness, particularly to programme countries.

Thank you.