

## ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment

### Session 5 – “Boosting tailored United Nations responses to diverse country contexts”

New York, 24 May 2023

#### Statement by Portugal

Excellencies,  
Dear Colleagues,

- As several crises continue to disrupt societies and economies, tailored UN support to countries in special situations is all the more relevant.
- Portugal welcomes the **progress achieved in UNDS reform** [which has been patent across the sessions of this OAS], and we recognize that adequate and predictable **funding** plays a crucial role in sustaining this progress. This is why we are steady contributors of the Joint SDG Fund, the Resident Coordinator Fund and the Peacebuilding Fund.
- Across our development cooperation, **countries in special situations** play an important role: we increased our global ODA by 17.5% in 2022, and we allocate 58% of our gross bilateral ODA to LDCs and 30% to SIDS.
- Focusing particularly on **LDCs**, Portugal stands for the full implementation of the Doha Programme of Action. We believe it is crucial that the UNDS integrates the guidance provided by the DPoA into its strategic work, under the leadership of RCs and host countries, in particular to stimulate inclusive and sustainable economic transformation. *How is the UNDS doing so in practice?*
- Given the particular circumstances affecting **graduating countries**, it is also important that the UNDS and RCs engage in the establishment of the “Sustainable Graduation Support Facility”, which is meant to aggregate tailored support to graduating countries.
- Ahead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN Conference on **LLDCs** and the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on **SIDS**, it is important that the UNDS focuses on collaboration, partnership, and knowledge-sharing to ensure successful deliverables.
- To this end, holding multi-stakeholder dialogues in the run-up to these Conferences will be important, engaging all actors in the preparation process and fostering ownership of the conferences’ outcomes at country level. Let me close by saying that Portugal is ready to do its part in helping the UNDS provide more integrated, efficient and fit-for-purpose support to countries’ needs and priorities on sustainable development.
- Thank you.