

**Speaking points of the Brazilian delegation to the
2017 Operational Activities for Development Segment
of the Economic and Social Council**

28 February 2017

Speaking points for the interactive discussion in the panel “Building a stronger United Nations development system (UNDS) for delivering on the 2030 Agenda”

- Thank you, Mr. Moderator. I would like to support the remarks made by G77 and China, and to add the following remarks in national capacity.
- I would like to thank the panelists, as well as our colleagues in the room, for their inputs to the discussion on how to build a stronger UNDS. We would also like to thank the Minister of Social Development of Chile, Mr. Marcos Barraza, for his presentation, which illustrated several common challenges and achievements of our region.
- My delegation would like to welcome with appreciation the statement made this morning by the Deputy Secretary General, Ms. Amina Mohammed, in particular her general approach regarding the UNDS and the importance to revert inequalities generated by some aspects of the globalization; tailor efforts at country level; recall the role of science and technology; and acknowledge that the system works both with normative and operative functions.
- We are here today to discuss how to launch the implementation of the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR). This should be our focus. The QCPR resolution has 84 operative paragraphs that set the way forward for the system. We are not here to reopen negotiations, or to establish a kind of third phase for the ECOSOC Dialogues on the long term positioning of the

UNDS. Our framework, our starting point to move forward is the resolution itself, imperfect as it is.

- This Segment should therefore discuss how to implement the mandates established by the QCPR, as well as what to expect from the reports requested to the Secretary-General: the outline and the strategic document (which is a second stage vis-a-vis the outline); the improvement of the governance of the UNDS; and the improvement of the Resident Coordinator system. This is the very specific, however complex, space within which to operate when discussing new ideas and innovation.
- Funding is a critical challenge and will be discussed in a dedicated session tomorrow. However, since this issue overtook the present discussion, let me point out that the QCPR did not request an “overhaul” of the funding architecture of the UNDS, but a discussion on “aligning funding modalities with functions” – a proposal that is in itself controversial, but there will be other opportunities to address this matter. While the funding architecture should always be improved and adapted, and we have heard interesting ideas from the panel and from the floor in this regard, it is important to keep in mind that the resolution did not decide for a radical shift, change or overhaul of the funding architecture. We can reach that conclusion, but never take it for granted; depending on the direction of the proposed overhaul, it can be or not be agreeable by Member states, who have the final word in this matter. Any discussion on funding should be guided by the resolution and the spirit of its 84 paragraphs.
- Regarding functions, a discussion that will take place this afternoon, the proposal to focus on the “normative function” as the funding priority of the proposed “overhaul” is a reason for concern. It is not consistent with the QCPR resolution and with the current functioning of the system, integrating both normative and operational activities. While funding is a challenge and must be an ongoing conversation, one cannot assume that, by focusing funding on the normative work, current problems will be solved.
- We look forward to continue discussing these and other ideas on the next session. Thank you.