Madam Deputy Secretary-General,

Thank you for your report on the Development Coordination Office (DCO) and the Resident Coordinator (RC) system. In addition to the points I am about to make, we align with the statement delivered by Switzerland.

We welcome the increased efforts towards transparency and data sharing, and look forward to this strengthening our understanding of the system, and being best able to support it in its work in achieving the SDGs.

The data shared in the report shows widespread support for the empowered RC system, but the Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) is not fully implemented across the whole UNDS, with only 12 entities recognising reporting obligations to the RC for planning, programme implementation and resource mobilisation, and 14 recognising their country representative's relationship with the RC in job descriptions. What more will be done to ensure that all members of UNCTs have a full understanding of the MAF?

The recruitment of RCOs is almost complete, and we recognise the timely potential of the economist role in increasing the focus of UNCTs on SDG financing, and engagement with IFIs during the worst recession the global economy has experienced in 90 years. Similarly, IFIs and the World Bank are key stakeholders in the UNSDCF and CCA processes and their support allows for better coherence at country level. Their input, access and scale are a key comparative advantage that can only strengthen the UN's interventions. Only 58% of host governments agree that collaboration between IFIs and the UN in their country has improved over the past four years, what can host countries and donor countries jointly do to address this?

We welcome the launch of the RC/HC talent pipeline to prepare internal and external candidates for becoming RCs, the diversification of this pool is important for ensuring we have the right mix of skills and backgrounds to deploy for every setting. The career prospects for RCs who complete their tour still seem limited, and this poses a barrier for recruiting strong candidates. **What is needed to unblock this potential?**

Thank you.