



PHILIPPINES

Draft PH Statement

2021 ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment

Session on Dialogue with programme country governments, resident coordinators and UN country team members: Tailoring UN development system's support to countries' specific circumstances

9:15am-10:45am, 19 May 2021

Thank you, Excellency.

We thank the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and their teams, the Resident Coordinators and the UN Country Teams for their efforts and dedication that have allowed us to reach considerable gains in strengthening the service delivery of the UN Development System (UNDS) on the ground.

I wish to underline the following:

1. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how important it is for programme countries such as the Philippines and the UN Development System to work together to chart responses to recover from the pandemic and accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
2. The impacts of the pandemic are universal but also context-specific, as different countries have different capacities to address specific challenges, as well as different priorities. This lens filters our views on how UNDS should tailor its support for countries' specific circumstances.
3. The revitalized RC system is in a better position to address the development needs and priorities of countries where they operate. In order for the UN Country Teams to adequately respond to the needs of

programme countries, greater international support from all sources, including member states, development partners and international financial institutions, the private sector, among others is needed.

4. We echo the call of the Secretary General for the UNDS to evolve its support to middle-income countries (MICs) in all their diversity and would like to hear how the UNDS is, in concrete terms, operationalizing this needed support for middle-income countries. We note that the Report of the Secretary General recognizes how the pandemic has reinforced the extreme vulnerability of some MICs to shocks, given their overdependence on primary commodity exports, the volatility of exchange rates and capital flows, rising inequality and weaknesses in social protection systems.

Thank you.