



PHILIPPINES

Draft PH Statement 2021 ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment

Session on Joining forces with international financial institutions during and after the crisis

3:00pm – 5:00pm, 18 May 2021

Thank you, Excellency.

As programme country, we recognize the UNDS contribution to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs, including through the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. We appreciate the strong and independent leadership that the reinvigorated Resident Coordinator system (RCs) is providing for the UNDS at the country level. We appreciate the convening of this segment and value this space to discuss how to strengthen cooperation and partnerships with international financial institutions (IFIs) to respond to COVID-19 and achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Middle-Income Countries should not be left out of funds and programs to recover better from this pandemic. Now more than ever, UN agencies should continue to support MICs with greater resources to confront the multidimensional impacts and socioeconomic crisis brought about by the COVID19 pandemic.

It is in our view that the UNDS should take the lead in defining the trend of international support to middle-income countries, influencing and fostering new partnerships with the international financial institutions, regional organizations, regional development banks and other stakeholders. We are pleased to see that the report recognizes the need to see more integrated policy advice to help countries address intersecting vulnerabilities towards achieving the SDGs, drawing on UN capacities at all levels, as well as collaboration with international financial institutions (IFIs), and regional and sub-regional development institutions.

This is of particular importance for the Philippines, as a programme country and a middle-income country facing specific challenges. We have strongly advocated this in the last year's negotiations of the QCPR Resolution for a gradual shift from a traditional model of direct support and service provision towards a greater emphasis on integrated high-quality policy advice for MICs. This should be delivered through a whole-of-system approach in order to foster a more coherent, integrated and coordinated UN system and ensure complementarity of development activities at the country level.

In this regard, we would like to hear for updates on the request to develop a joint framework of collaboration with multilateral development banks to improve synergies at the regional and country levels, including specific attention to middle-income countries and how the IFIs can assist MICs in this regard. Thank you.