

**Statement of the Like-Minded Group of Countries Supporters of
Middle-Income Countries
Operational Activities Segment – Opening and High-Level Dialogue
with the Secretary General
17th May 2022, 10:00am (EST)**

Check against delivery.

Thank you, Mr. President,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Like-Minded Group of Countries Supporters of Middle-Income Countries.

The Group would like to express its appreciation to the Secretary General for his report on the implementation of the QCPR. We acknowledge that the UNDS Operational Activities can greatly contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and have provided critical and timely support to program countries to implement strategies on the socio-economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, considering specific challenges and priorities at the national level. It is our view that the UNDS can and should continue to improve on the support structure it offers to developing countries, and notably to Middle-Income Countries

We concur on the need to completely revamp the approach taken by the UNDS to better support middle-income countries, which will require

revisiting the prevailing measures of wellbeing in all three dimensions of sustainable development.

In that vein, we request UN funds and programs to enhance the application of measures of progress that go beyond GDP to inform a better allocation of their resources, reflecting multidimensional vulnerabilities and structural weaknesses of each country, including disaggregated social and environmental indicators and risks, resilience to shocks, income and wealth inequality, among others

The Group also expects that the benefits of the application of measures of progress that go beyond GDP will also be included in the analysis of the mapping exercise that is expected to be finalized and presented in the 78th Session of the General Assembly, with a view to enhance development cooperation with MICs.

In this regard, we kindly invite the Secretary General to orally brief Member States on the progress of this mandate, and to consider methodologies to showcase the experience of middle-income countries in receiving support from the UNDS during its implementation.

Mr. President,

In the context of global geopolitical tensions, food insecurity and energy access have summed up to the list of serious threats to the sustainability of actions taken by developing countries to overcome the pandemic and get back on track for the achievement of the SDGs.

In this regard, we welcome the establishment of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food Security, Energy and Finance and underscore the role of the UNDS operational activities to support a timely, coordinated, and effective global response to these crises at the global, regional, and local levels.

I thank you.