



**ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment
SESSION 1: OAS Opening and High-level dialogue
between the Secretary-General and UN Member States
17 May 2022, New York**

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of MIKTA countries – Mexico, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Turkey and Australia – on the occasion of the ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment.

MIKTA countries thank the Secretary General for his dedication, leadership and commitment to implement the new UN Development System reform. We also thank him for his comprehensive report to the ECOSOC on the system-wide implementation of the QCPR and the reform of the UN Development System.

MIKTA countries are pleased to note that the reforms are moving forward. We recognize with appreciation that the new UN Development System with the re-configured Resident Coordinator (RC) system at its core, is providing more integrated, efficient and better-quality support to country needs and priorities on sustainable development, aligned with the priorities in the 2020 quadrennial review. In this regard, we welcome the progress in country configuration, regional support, business operations and system-wide results reporting and evaluation.

We also commend the UN Development System for its efficient and integrated response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Having highlighted these positive developments, we are mindful that this year's ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment is taking place in an unprecedented context: The war in Ukraine, with its rippling effects on food and energy security and finance across the globe, has come at

a time when the world is already struggling with compounded challenges of climate change and growing inequalities triggered by the protracted COVID-19 pandemic.

Against this backdrop, MIKTA countries would like to highlight the following:

We are concerned with the increasing number of people requiring humanitarian assistance and protection since last year.

The war in Ukraine underlined the importance of further enhancing collaboration and building stronger synergies across humanitarian, development and peace building interventions of the UN entities.

MIKTA countries also call for deeper institutional change, in particular a radical change in “my agency first” culture as well as behavioral change across UN management and staff to address the complex and multidimensional challenges in a coherent and integrated manner.

We welcome the increased acknowledgement by governments of the Resident Coordinators as an entry point to access the United Nations system at the country level. Current efforts need to be accelerated to take full advantage of the convening role of the Resident Coordinators to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

While we are encouraged by the increased efficiency gains, we look forward to accelerated progress towards the goal of achieving annual savings of \$310 million by 2022, as set by the Secretary General, with the ultimate aim of increasing the share of funds that are allocated to programmes rather than administrative costs.

We welcome the efforts of UN entities to increase their collaboration for resource mobilization. However, competition among United Nations entities for donor funding remains to be an area where MIKTA countries would like to see further improvement in accordance with the Resolution 72/279.

MIKTA countries reiterate their commitment to international peace, sustainable development and multilateralism and express once again their readiness to continue working with the Secretary-General and his team, as well as with UN entities and Member States on this critical topic.

We remain a committed supporter of reform of the UN Development System and the goal to make the “UN fit for purpose” to deliver on Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

Thank you.