

**Statement on Behalf of the African Group at the 2022 ECOSOC
Operational Activities for Development Segment Interactive Dialogue with the
Secretary General
(17 May 2022, 10am)**

**Mr. Secretary General,
Madam Deputy Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,**

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group.

At the outset, I would like to align myself with the statement delivered by Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and would like to express its appreciation to you, Mr. Secretary-General, and to the Deputy Secretary-General for your commitment to reform and improve the way the UN Development system operates to improve coherence and insure integrated policy support to national governments in implementing the 2030 Agenda and the AU Agenda 2063, in line with their national needs and opportunities.

As we start today our discussions in the Operational Activities Segment, which we, indeed, consider as the RC system and DCO's governing body, we would like also to thank you for the dialogues, briefings, and exchanges that you and the Deputy Secretary-General had with us throughout the last year despite the COVID related challenges and including before, during and after the General Assembly intergovernmental consultations on the RC system review, which outcome, unfortunately, does not reflect the African Group's ambition, particularly on the funding.

Excellencies,

The African Groupe welcomes the Secretary-General's report on the QCPR and the UNSDG Chair on DCO and appreciates the continued improvement in data availability and transparency, which consolidates ECOSOC oversight on the UN development system.

As Africa is the biggest recipient of the Resident Coordinators System with 53 Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, the consolidation of the system and preserving of its capacities is of the utmost importance to the African Group if we are to benefit from a real tailored and integrated support in putting the 2030 Agenda

back on track as we recover from COVID and face the consequences of another international crisis.

Based on the rich data available in both reports, we note positive progress on all reform fronts.

The African Group appreciated the value addition demonstrated by the repositioned United Nations development system in providing more integrated, efficient, and better-quality support to country needs and priorities on sustainable development. We also appreciate the strengthening of the linkages between the regional and national levels through the Regional Collaborative Platform to improve the delivery of our Cooperation Frameworks, which should be its ultimate goal.

Besides, we welcome the reference to the Resident Coordinators convening role in mobilizing financing and establishing partnerships to support their host governments to implement the 2030 Agenda and the outcomes of the main UN summits and conferences such as climate, food systems and education.

Excellencies,

The African Group agrees that our collective responsibility is to bring more scale, ambition, and urgency to our action. We need to save the SDGs and put the 2030 Agenda back on track! This will not be possible without a robust United Nations Development System, coordinated by RCs, using their convening power to ensure integration, coherence and establish partnerships.

The African Group will engage constructively in the discussions through the Group of 77 and China and looks forward to engaging other delegations on the ECOSOC resolution on the Operational Activities Segment.

Finally, the African Group would like to congratulate Assistant Secretary-General Robert Piper for his appointment as the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement and would like to thank him of successfully steering the work of the UN development system transition team and brilliantly overseeing the inception phase of the Development Coordination Office.

We wish him the best for his next endeavor and look forward to continuing to work with his successor.

Thank you!