

NIGERIA'S STATEMENT

AT THE

**2022 ECOSOC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT SEGMENT
INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

TUESDAY, 17TH MAY 2022,

VENUE: ECOSOC CHAMBER

TIME: 10 – 12AM

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Madam Vice President,

Madam Deputy Secretary-General,

Nigeria aligns its statement with the statements delivered on behalf of the G77 and China and that of African Group.

2. My delegation appreciates the report of the Secretary General and his briefing at this Operational Activities Segment (OAS), which outlined the appreciable progress made by the United Nations Development System (UNDS). We are aware of the tremendous efforts by the Deputy Secretary-General and her team for their continuing engagement in this process.

3. My delegation underscores the significance of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. It is imperative to recognize the devastating economic impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic and other related challenges particularly in developing countries, undermining their ability to implement the goals and targets of 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

4. Consequently, we reiterate our unwavering support to the operationalization of the new Resident Coordinator (RC) system and the configuration of the new country teams, which are at frontline of the UN response in assisting program countries to mitigate the diverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in the context of the decade of action, RCs and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) should always be at the frontline in putting poverty eradication and sustainable recovery in their respective mandate, while also ensuring coherence and complementarity of their actions.

Madam Deputy Secretary-General,

5. While welcoming the significant efforts to strengthen the quality and coordination of Partnership Officers which enabled RCs and UNCTs to strengthen multi-stakeholder relationships for the SDGs support, we further call on tailored assistance given the specific needs of developing countries and their challenges for achieving the SDGs.

6. We note challenges to the ongoing reforms and wish to emphasize that, for the UNCTs to adequately respond to the needs of countries in vulnerable situations, particularly their desire to recover stronger from the Covid19 pandemic and accelerate the implementation of the SDGs, greater international support from all sources, including member states, international financial institutions, the private sector, the civil society, among others, would be needed.

7. Therefore, we must ensure greater mobilization around the goals as well as more ambitious decisions from governments, the private sector and others. We must work harder to create SDG solutions that are capable of delivering change at the speed and scale that the Goals require. Underpinning all of this will be a strong effort to further mobilize resources for sustainable development. In this connection, we believe that integrated national financial frameworks would be essential.

Madam Deputy Secretary-General,

8. Going forward, the need for reform has never been greater than now, when countries around the world are collectively seeking and putting up innovative measures to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic. In doing so, national ownership and leadership in all matters pertaining to the repositioning of the UN Development System is critical for the delivery of effective results.

9. We must develop the political consensus to address systemic shortcomings related to the funding gap of the RC system, while welcoming the re-assurance of transparency and accountability in the funding of operational activities for development.

10. In conclusion, Nigeria remains ever-ready to work with others to do all we required in support of the implementation of SDGs, and in particular, poverty eradication.

11. I thank you.