

**FULL REMARKS BY THE DELEGATION OF TURKEY
AT THE OAS SESSION 4B ‘UNLEASHING THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM’S
REGIONAL ASSETS: THE PATH FORWARD’**

Mr. Chair,

I would first like to thank the panelists for their insights on the proposed regional-level cooperation and coordination. It has been useful in grasping how the remaining mandates of the UNDS reform could complement and improve the already-existing work.

Turkey hosts a number of regional agencies in Istanbul, and we are glad to contribute to the reform efforts and closely cooperate with these agencies to better deliver on the ground. We have also advanced with the establishment of the DCO regional desk in Istanbul and we look forward to its finalization.

We commend the progress achieved in the UNDS reform, and the two remaining mandates of the process. In this respect, based on the recommendations set out in the SG report, I would like to renew some of the issues that we think are crucial in the regional reconfiguration:

- First, consolidated regional platforms should reinforce UNDS’ support to programme countries in line with their national goals and priorities.
- Issues such as governance of transboundary rivers should not be included in the mandate of the regional platforms.
- We must avoid duplications and competition between mechanisms and platforms.
- We need to clarify mechanisms to refer to when there is disagreement between the national and regional level mechanisms.
- RCPs should not be in a position to express different views on issues that the respective RC and the host country may or may not have agreed upon. In another words, we need to ensure that RCPs do not overrule the host country’s views and needs.
- When determining the priorities of each region, consent of all countries involved in that particular region must be ensured.
- Finally, in case where any of the regional member states do not want the involvement of UN in a particular issue, the RCP and issue-based coalitions should refrain from doing so.

Turkey believes that the regional review could potentially bring about important improvements in our system-wide efforts, and looks forward to the finalization of this process later in the General Assembly.

Thank you.