

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

His Excellency Oh Joon President of the Economic and Social Council

Opening Session of the 2016 Development Cooperation Forum

New York, 20 July 2016

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I welcome you all to the fifth biennial High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum.

The DCF is focused on the growing role of development cooperation, including its tremendous potential in effectively achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

DCF's work is taken into account by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development.





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In its current two-year cycle, the DCF has provided valuable input to the intergovernmental negotiations on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and their early implementation phase.

The DCF has helped give shape to our revitalized global partnership for sustainable development for mobilizing financing and other 'means of implementation'.

The DCF will also continue to play an instrumental role in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the context of increasingly complex and volatile development cooperation landscape, the DCF provides a unique global multi-stakeholder platform to engage in action-oriented debates on the trends and progress in international development cooperation.





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At this Forum, we share examples of opportunities, challenges, failures, best practices and lessons learned, in the spirit of mutual learning. These are the essential part of the DCF.

The 2016 DCF culminates an extensive preparatory process, including three High-level Preparatory Symposiums held in the Republic of Korea [8-10 April 2015], Uganda [4-6 November 2015] and Belgium [6-8 April 2016], during the last year and this year.

I am well aware that many of you have engaged in these preparations. Our Meeting here in New York brings all these strands of work together for a unified dialogue and knowledge sharing that will provide policy makers and practitioners at all levels – global, regional, country and local – with concrete guidance and policy recommendations



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We will exchange ideas and early experience in aligning development cooperation and its institutions to the 2030 Agenda, including in the critical area of monitoring and review.

We will also take a distinctive development cooperation perspective to specific challenges and opportunities in South-South cooperation, private development cooperation and blended finance, and technology transfer and capacity building.

The outcome of all our deliberations will be shared in a President's Summary, containing key messages and policy guidance on development cooperation in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

I urge you to be challenging and focused in your contributions to the discussions.

Let us make the most of this Development Cooperation Forum held back-to-back with the first HLPF meeting we had





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since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. I wish you all inspiring and productive forum.

Thank you.

