



**Statement by H. E. Ambassador Frederico Meyer,  
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Brazil  
to the United Nations, at the Economic and Social Council  
(Briefing by the Deputy Secretary General on the repositioning of the  
United Nations development system)**

**7 October 2017**

Thank you, Chairperson.

I would like to thank the Deputy Secretary-General for her presentation on the repositioning of the United Nations development system. Brazil appreciates, Madam, your engagement with Member States in the process towards the December report.

The overall vision contained in the June report responds to the main orientation of the QCPR resolution, which is to "better position United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda".

This is the purpose of and reference for the repositioning exercise. It clearly facilitates the discussion on the specific proposals, since there is an agreed backdrop against which these proposals can be checked. Efficiency and

effectiveness considerations, which Brazil very much supports, are therefore means to that end.

Principles contained in the first report – such as reinforcing national ownership and leadership; ensuring country-contextual responses; and making the country level delivery the litmus test for success – should guide the second report.

In order to meet current development challenges, the UNDS should adapt itself to operate in the context of the unique development dynamics in each country. This would give concrete meaning to the idea that a "one-size-fits-all" model of operation of the agencies in developing countries is inadequate.

Also, addressing insufficient levels of inter-agency coordination, technical expertise and operational capacities is long overdue. The Strategic Document must envision better ways to address the gaps and overlaps identified in the outline of functions and capacities in support of the 2030 Agenda. It does not necessarily need to create new structures, but it should ensure that the expertise needed at country level, will be available and easily accessible in the system, in a coordinated way.

We would like to see further elaboration on coordinating and sophisticating capacity development at country level.

The improvement of the Resident Coordinator System must be guided by national priorities and by enhanced coordination with national focal points for development cooperation. Profiles of the RCs must be locally defined in consultation with national governments. Changes in reporting lines must be

accompanied by the correlated strengthening of system-wide oversight by member states.

Brazil supports greater rationalization and cost-effectiveness of country offices, as well as increasing integration levels of back offices and operational services. All entities of the UNDS have a responsibility on that endeavor.

Chairperson,

Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals require that the UNDS provides meaningful support to all developing countries that request it – through a multidimensional approach to poverty and to development challenges – while paying special attention to the most vulnerable countries.

There is no evidence of the need to reduce the overall support of the UNDS to countries. On the contrary, what is needed in the 2030 Agenda context is the strengthening and, at the same time, rationalization of programming at country level, as well as of the policy backbone that enables it at all levels.

Moreover, the physical presence of the UNDS across all regions and contexts is crucial to capture and share successful experiences on common development challenges. In this regard, South-South cooperation is also instrumental.

Chairperson,

Brazil supports the repositioning of the UNDS and will keep a constructive engagement with Member States and the Office of the Secretary-General on this matter.

Thank you.