

2nd Drafting Session for 3rd Financing for Development Conference

April 13, 2015

Intervention by Mr. Amit Narang, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of India to the UN

Thank you Mr. Co-Facilitator for giving me the Floor,

The morning session today was a useful crash course in ‘speed-reading’, or perhaps more accurately ‘speed-speaking’!

I should note however that while speed-speaking may be useful, it is neither good for the health of the interpreters, nor a substitute for a drafting exercise which we were supposed to undertake in this session.

Mr. Co-Facilitator,

We warmly commend the efforts of both Your Excellencies, your teams and the Secretariat for preparing the Zero Draft.

In our view the Zero Draft is a reasonable starting point for debate.

However, we agree with the Distinguished Ambassador of Guyana that at this stage, it is more a ‘point of departure’ and substantial effort will still be needed to make it into a ‘point of convergence’.

Mr. Co-Facilitator,

We welcome your effort in raising the ambition on means of implementation by building upon the OWG proposal as the floor and the

intentional achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

We are not fully convinced with the logic of altering the structure of Monterrey and Doha.

The separation of private flows from domestic resource mobilization seems artificial and not fully convincing nor is the mutation of DRM into

pass a judgment at this stage on whether FfD can provide the entire pillar of means of implementation (MOI) of the development agenda. We suggest that we deal with this draft document in its own right and integrity and consider its relationship with the development agenda later.

Mr. Co-Facilitator,

The notion of universality, which has been mentioned by several delegations, in our view implies that unlike the past, this time around the developed countries will also have to be held accountable for their actions.

In the context of FfD, this would mean that developed countries would not only have to provide enhanced financial and technological support to developing countries, but also demonstrably allocate more resources for urgently transitioning their societies to more sustainable patterns of consumption.

We heard comments by some delegations today about emphasizing poverty eradication *n* sustainable development, as if these were distinct silos.

In our view, it is incorrect to characterize the Addis Ababa Conference as a *n n* from financing for development to financing for sustainable development. This is less of a transition and more of a realization of the need to pursue development holistically across its three dimensions and not merely the integration of environmental action.

We strongly support the contention of the G77 that the overarching objective of the FfD Conference must be to eradicate poverty and hunger, which is the heart of achieving sustainable development.

Mr. Co-Facilitator,

The chapter on technology is perhaps the most underwhelming portion of the Zero Draft not least because the discussions on this issue as mandated by General Assembly are yet to be held.

