



## **G-15 Joint Statement**

### To the ECOSOC High-level Segment

18<sup>th</sup> July 2016, New York

**“Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results”**

**Delivered by Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife of Sri Lanka**

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Fifteen (G-15), a Group of Developing Countries focused on South-South cooperation and collaboration for the realization of development and economic progress, especially in the areas of investment, trade and technology.
2. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by our leaders in September, 2015 is a plan of action for the ‘people, planet and prosperity’ built on the three pillars of social, economic and environment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The G-15 appreciates the adoption of the new Development Agenda and our Foreign Ministers have identified the 2030 Agenda as a key global process for the G-15 to be involved and contribute to its implementation as a niche Group of the Global South. As the 2030 Agenda comes into effect this year, setting new global norms for development in the next 15 years, we welcome this first review which would allow for comprehensive assessment of the needs and charter the way forward in the implementation phase of the Agenda.
3. The G-15 views the 2030 Agenda as a milestone in humanity’s progress, seizing on the opportunity to build on the Millennium Development Goals while recognizing and overcoming the shortcomings of that process. The Group affirms that multi-lateral processes such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development is an integral part of the implementation of the Development Agenda and welcomes the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Forum on Financing for Development Follow-Up which was convened in New York in April this year. The G-15 acknowledges the need to discuss the follow-up and review of the financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In that context, the Group welcomes the forum as a platform for policy dialogue on financing for development follow-up to assess progress, identify challenges and facilitate the delivery of the means of implementation. The Group further affirms that other multilateral frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Climate Change Agreement, augment the SDGs and a holistic approach in implementing these multilateral frameworks will be critical in achieving the desired results of sustainable development.
4. The G-15 further recognises the significant role that the ECOSOC has to play in the implementation phase of the Development Agenda. The high-level segment which is themed this year ‘Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results’ will provide an opportunity to lay a solid foundation on the necessary mechanisms to assess the progress of the implementation phase of the Agenda.

The G-15 reiterates that such a follow-up and review mechanism should reaffirm national sovereignty.

5. The Group further affirms that eradication of poverty must remain at the centre of our endeavours. While acknowledging that the primary responsibility of implementation of the ambitious 2030 Agenda lies with the respective governments, it is a fact that most developing and least developed countries will face a greater challenge in operationalizing the agreed commitments, given the national resource constraints. In this context, the global partnerships should be intensified from the MDG era, and our Group hopes that the commitments made in the new Development Agenda in mobilizing financial resources and capacity building to developing countries and the reaffirmed commitments by developed countries to achieve Official Development Assistance targets (ODAs) would be operationalized sustainably, in order for developing countries to keep on par with the required progress.
6. The G-15 calls for meaningful technology transfers in order to achieve the stated goals under the Development Agenda, particularly with regard to renewable energy that would address the growing concerns of climate change. The Group reiterates its previous call for a meaningful Technology Facilitation Mechanism which must be an integral element in the implementation of the Agenda, and the Group therefore strongly supports a technology facilitation mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies.

Thank you.

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