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GERMAN PERMANENT MISSION

GENEVA

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# STATEMENT

BY

DEPUTY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

**ECOSOC ANNUAL MINISTERIAL REVIEW ON THE THEME  
"STRENGTHENING EFFORTS FOR THE ERADICATION  
OF POVERTY AND HUNGER, INCLUDING THROUGH  
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT**

and increasing social and economic inequalities. The income gap between developed and developing countries is widening while divergence in wealth is also growing among the developing countries. To overcome these imbalances and achieve global economic stability and prosperity will therefore require strengthening our collective efforts, and remaining committed to the ideals envisioned in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the wider internationally agreed development goals. It is in this light that we see the United Nations as an indispensable force in mobilizing support

for global partnerships, and for the role of the United Nations in the development process.

Developing countries are striving on our own to achieve our development targets and our efforts need to be given the

countries are making tremendous strides towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Ghana's economy, for instance, is benefiting from increased growth underpinned by anti-inflationary monetary policies.

With consolidation of the business environment has improved.

investor confidence in the economy and the prospect of

Since 2001 the government has implemented sound and prudent fiscal and monetary Policy and has achieved some positive economic and social results.

Despite these achievements, challenges still remain. While there is general decline in poverty levels, relentless urbanization is shifting the pattern of poverty to urban areas, with the youth as the most affected; infant and child mortality rates are still high and malaria continues to be a major cause of mortality and morbidity in Ghana. These conditions are

Mr. President, in this globalized and interdependent world, external conditions and policies have a direct bearing on the effectiveness and policy space available for designing a country's development strategies. Our understanding of the

global partnership for development is that international policies should

Unfortunately, the  
ILO  
Doha negotiations to achieve an equitable and development-oriented trading system. Issues such as agricultural and non-agricultural market access, trade-distorting subsidies as well as tariff and non-tariff barriers are among the myriad of problems assailing the developmental efforts of developing countries but which only require political will from developed countries to resolve. This indeed represents a setback with respect to our commitment to an open and a rule-based trading system.

Cooperation efforts in the areas of ODA, technical assistance and commitments in multilateral trade negotiations should be

designed to benefit the specific needs of the vulnerable and poor countries especially those in Africa.

If the theme of this Annual Ministerial Review is to live to its true meaning then our deliberations should remind us that we are half-way through to 2015 and that it is important to move the development agenda forward at a faster pace. Time is not on our side and it is my sincere hope that as developing nations struggle to reduce poverty in their respective countries developed nations will hasten in the promised scaling-up efforts and reward performing nations.

Thank you for your attention.