



Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Ambassador

Muhammad Aslam of Islamic Republic of Pakistan at the Launch of the

Development Cooperation Forum at the 2007 Substantive Session of the

ECOSOC
5 July 2007, Geneva

Mr. President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of Group of 77 and China at the official launching of the Development Cooperation Forum during the High Level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council's Substantive Session 2007.

2. For the Pakistan delegation and for me personally it is indeed a source of great pleasure and satisfaction to see the initiative for a revitalized and strengthened ECOSOC, launched during Pakistan's Presidency of the Economic and Social Council in 2005, translated into reality.

3. In further elaborating the vision given by our leaders at the 2005 Summit to strengthen ECOSOC, the General Assembly resolution 61/16 outlined the role of the Development Cooperation Forum:

• **First**, to review trends and progress and give policy guidance and

• **Second**, to identify gaps and obstacles to make recommendations on practical measures and policy options to enhance development coherence and effectiveness and realize the IADGs including the MDGs;

• **Third**, to provide a platform for member States to exchange lessons learned and experiences ;

• **Fourth**, to provide participation by all stakeholders;

3. The Development Cooperation Forum should, together with the Annual Ministerial Review, enable the ECOSOC to:

gaps and challenges;

- (ii) promote closer linkage between the analytical, normative and operational work of the entire UN system and other relevant organizations;
- (iii) promote closer linkage between system-wide operational activities and the implementation of the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals (IADGs);
- (iv) promote exchange of information on best practices and develop innovative approaches to development problems and challenges.

6. The relationship between the DCF and the AMR should be clear. The AMR is designed to review the progress in implementation of the entire range of the IADGs, including the MDGs, and to provide policy guidance for Member States, international organizations and other actors. The DCF is designed to focus on international development cooperation in all its aspects and improve its governance, effectiveness and impact to enhance the agreed development goals.

7. The only UN organ with the explicit Charter mandate to promote coordination within the UN System is the Economic and Social Council. However, ECOSOC's oversight of its subsidiary machinery, including the Fund and Programme, is at best perfunctory. It is almost non-existent with the BWIS for development policy issues after Monterrey Consensus but there is virtually no coordination on programmes and projects.

8. The DCF is designed to redress this unfortunate situation. In fact, the coordination of development cooperation is now specially acute, given the growing globalization, the interdependence of economic, social and environmental goals, the acknowledged needs of developing countries, specially the poorest and the most vulnerable among them, the growing number of development actors and stakeholders, the experience of

to address and redress poverty and hunger and the glaring inequalities in this increasingly integrated world.

9. Fortunately, there is evidence of a greater willingness on the part of developing countries, donors, international organizations and multilateral institutions to act together coherently to promote the goals of development.

10. Let me outline some preliminary views on the objectives and

11. The overall purpose of the DCF should be to ensure that:

One, that development cooperation is responsive to the needs of the developing countries as set out in their national development plans and strategies and to the LDCs and AIDCs;

Two, to ensure that the quantity and quality of development financing is adequate and appropriate to the needs of the recipient countries;

Three, to ensure that development cooperation achieves the desired objectives and results;

Four, that such cooperation is pursued in a coordinated and coherent manner at the national, regional and global level.

12. The effectiveness and relevance of the DCF will depend to a large extent on the ability to monitor implementation. As in the case of the AMR, we would advocate the development of agreed criteria and benchmarks to measure the implementation, effectiveness and results of development cooperation. In this context, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness is a useful beginning. The indicators and benchmarks, it has set out should be further elaborated and refined to ensure mutual accountability and equal responsibilities for both the recipient and donor countries. This can and should be done within the DCF, not in forums restricted to donors only.

13. The effectiveness of the DCF will also depend considerably on the

national organizations and civil society

prepared to provide information on their respective

policy in operational levels for the construction of the DCE.

DCE requires... should emerge from the information and data made available for analysis and review, rather than being pre-determined a year or two in advance. However, a DCE meeting could decide in advance to address a particular issue besides reviewing the trend reported such as Aid Effectiveness Aid for Trade, the debt situation, financing infrastructure etc. so as to assess their impact and relevance for the realization of development goals and objectives.

Mr. President,

15 Today, the United Nations – the only organization with universal membership and ability to bring all stakeholders together – can serve as the... comprehensive, coherent and effective global... and social governance required to address the vital issues of development. The DCE, together with the AMR, can be key component of such global governance.

I thank you.

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