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Closing statement by H.E. MR. OH JOON PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL TO THE DCF UGANDA HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM

Kampala, 6 November 2015

Development cooperation for a new era: Making the renewed global partnership for sustainable development a reality full use of development cooperation for the Sustainable development Goals. Let us celebrate and propel the partnership dimension in addressing poverty, inequality and threats to sustainability. This must build on the strengths of each actor.

Second, you, the policy and decision makers and practitioners in the Ministries and organizations working on development cooperation, have a special responsibility. You have contributed to rethinking the role and scope of development cooperation. You are not only thought leaders, but the change agents that will drive progress. A holistic, grounded and truly collaborative approach is needed.

Third, <u>knowledge and information sharing will be</u> <u>quintessential: not only to raise public awareness of the SDGs, but</u> <u>also to inform evidence-based decisions on the design,</u> <u>implementation and review of development cooperation policy that</u> builds on good practice and creatively explores new opportunities.

A global space, like the Development Cooperation Forum, will remain a vital learning platform to advance the 2030 Agenda. The DCF must maintain its niche. With the Highof development cooperation and how it should contribute to the realization of the ambitious agenda.

Mr. Wu has so eloquently spoken about the need for mutual trust in his opening. Our discussion has highlighted critical dimensions of such trust building work, especially in the context of review and follow-up of development cooperation under the 2030 Agenda.

This includes development cooperation activities of the United Nations system. Our deliberations these past few days, and ongoing work of the DCF, can generate practical ideas to inform the ECOSOC Dialogue on the longer term positioning of the United Nations development system and ensuring it is fit to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Distinguished colleagues,

I hope that many of you can also attend a special meeting on inequality organized by ECOSOC in New York in the first quarter of 2016.

I will not shake your hands right now, as I will surely see you soon again in Belgium or New York.

Thank you.
