ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Substantive Session of 2013

Coordination Segment

Panel discussion on
"Financing for sustainable development"
Geneva, Palais des Nations
E Building, Conference room XIX
9 July 2013, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

effective sustainable development financing strategy. At the secretariat level, a dedicated working group was set up under the UN Task Team on the post-2015 development agenda, with the objective of mobilizing inputs from the UN system in support of the work of the expert committee. Most recentwaf cf1(oe775 Tc -0.005 Tw (ts)T50.304 0 Td (in)Tj 0 Tc1 0 Td (m(of)T957 -1.174

While the issue of a long investment horizon arises with traditional infrastructure investment, it is particularly relevant for low-carbon infrastructure projects, due to higher risks and lower expected returns over the life of the project. Similarly, long-term financing is needed for emerging technologies, which carry high risks that are often difficult to measure and price. Credit for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), which in many countries are main drivers of innovation, employment and growth, also remains constrained in many countries.

Financing of the global commons and other global public goods is also limited. Climate financing has evolved largely on a separate track from conventional development finance. The global architecture for climate finance is a complex and evolving structure, with over 50 international public funds, the participation of a disperse private sector, and increasing volatility in market-based mechanisms. Climate financing needs to be better incorporated into the broader global framework for financing for development, with a greater focus on the needs of low income countries.

Since financing gaps are especially large in areas that the private sector has not found attractive on a risk-reward basis, official financing will remain crucial for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and financing global social needs, as well as for leveraging private finance. There are a number of mechanisms in whi

4. How can impact-first investors most effectively catalyze more traditional investors for sustainable development? How do private sector incentives affect investments in sustainable development and how can these best be addressed?

5. What steps are necessary to ensure that innovative sources of financing and climate financing are additional to traditional ODA, and do not reduce incentives to meet the UN ODA target of 0.7 per cent?

6. What are the implications of a post-2015 development agenda that has a dual focus on poverty eradication and sustainable development for the relationship between traditional development cooperation and climate financing? How can climate financing be more effectively integrated into the broader global framework for financing for development?