



STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FIJI TO THE
UNITED NATIONS, AMBASSADOR PETER THOMSON AT THE
PREPARATORY MEETING ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

Trusteeship Council Chamber, 1st December, 2014

Co-Facilitators,

The Fiji delegation thanks you for convening this meeting and assures you of our full support in this preparatory process, building towards the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

Co-Facilitators,

We believe that for the successful implementation of financing for development activities, a much-improved data system will be essential. The theme of this morning's discussion, that of "data gaps", is a critical element given the manner in which our international institutions work.

In underlining the importance of data for development planning, we note that in many of the UN reports and documentation, statistical data from the Pacific Islands region is patchy, or often listed as missing. We therefore stress the importance of timely and appropriately aggregated and verified data, for the designing of evidence-based programs and development planning; and we call for adequate resource allocation for developing country capacity on data. Cooperative action and collaboration between governments, relevant UN agencies and other stakeholders is required to ensure necessary capacity for

effective integration of disaggregated and verified data pertaining to our countries.

Co-Facilitators,

We would like to comment on a few aspects of the direction of bridging data gaps.

Firstly, there is a need for well-modulated and transparent governance systems to be in place. A transparent and accountable governance system, free from corrupting practices, is one of the core requirements for effective development financing.

Secondly, there is a demonstrated need to push on with “public-private” partnerships. There is little doubt that collaboration between the private sector and our multilateral institutions will be an essential element in the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It is common knowledge that the funding available for the development agenda in the private sector, be it philanthropic, corporate pension funds, dwarfs that available in the public sector, particularly in the United Nations context.

It is also self-evident that a starving family cares little about whence the development assistance comes, as long as they receive it and survive. Therefore, since it is our job to see that they receive this assistance, th

