

Thank you, Mr. Co-facilitators. I speak on behalf of Oxfam and would like to follow up on what Assistant



A beginning step is to shine a light on the more than \$9 trillion dollars that are spent by governments around the world through public procurement, the vast majority of it through undisclosed contracts. Resource-rich countries generate billions of dollars each year from deals with oil, gas and mining companies that remain for the most part hidden from public scrutiny. Official Development Assistance (ODA) involves enormous flows but the vast majority of aid contracts are kept secret. The Elements Paper must address [Open Contracting](#)² to ensure that these enormous flows, these \$9 trillion plus dollars spent through public procurement, are transparently and accountably managed.

Open Contracting involves disclosure of public contracts so that citizens, parliamentarians, journalists and others can analyze and monitor the implementation of vital projects and services. Open Contracting is a cross-cutting approach which can apply to a range of financial flows from ODA to climate finance to natural resource deals involving private companies and host governments. Whether it is for major infrastructure projects or the supply of medicines to remote clinics, Open Contracting is a key policy tool that will support the good governance and anti-corruption agendas.

Financing the development gap can be done, but not on the back of secret deals. The Addis Ababa outcomes should include commitments to full transparency of all contracts that include the use of public funds for development purposes and promote accountable public financial management to ensure projects benefit the poorest. More specific findings proposals can be found in our [joint CSO response to the Elements Paper](#)³

Thank you.