

First informal regarding the Financing for Development Forum – process for draft conclusions and recommendations

23 March 2016

Delivered by Amy Haddad, Counsellor, Australia Mission to the United Nations

Good afternoon cofacilitators, thank you for convening this meeting today.

I am pleased to be here to make some brief remarks on behalf of Canada and Australia on the 'intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations' from the first Financing for Development Forum.

As we have heard many times in different fora, 2016 is an important but also slightly unusual year, and we are all finding our feet in these processes.

As a starting point Australia and Canada would look to support processes which begin to build an approach for the Financing Development discussions which reflects its own unique role, but also its importance as a broader part of the 2030

In order to reflect the inclusive and yet technical nature of these discussions, it would make a great deal of sense for the outcome document to be based upon the Inter-Agency Task Force report which will form the evidentiary basis for our follow up.

We note that overnight we have also received a note by the Secretary General, titled 'Monitoring commitments and action in the Addis Ababa Agenda on Financing for Development,' we look forward to considering its contents further in these consultations.

Finally in terms of substance we would also like to have it noted that this outcome document would normally capture the outcomes of the Development Cooperation Forum, which this year occurs after the Financing for Development Forum. We would see utility in future years for these forums to be appropriately sequenced so that the DCF can feed into the Financing for Development Forum.

We appreciate the thoughtful comments of others today. There is quite a lot of detail in some of these comments and we would value the opportunity to reflect on these proposals and to submit written comments in response.

Australia and Canada thank the facilitators for taking on this role and look forward to engaging further in these consultations.

Thank you.