Closing remarks
H.E. Ambassador Oh Joon
President of ECOSOC
ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up
(New York, 20 April 2016)

Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have now come to the end of the inaugural ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up.

First of all, let me express my appreciation to all of you for your active participation in the Forum.

All delegations have demonstrated their commitment to the full and timely implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The representatives of major institutional stakeholders reaffirmed their commitment to continuing their collaboration that we have seen in recent years. Non-governmental organizations and the business sector also reminded us of the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

I also wish to extend my special thanks to all the panelists and moderators who came from all over the world to make their contributions.

And once again, I thank the co-facilitators, the Ambassadors of Benin and Croatia, for their efforts in working out the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations.

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

On a final note, one important lesson I learned while preparing for and conducting the Forum, which I hope other participants share, is that what is most important in financing for development is our shared commitment to working together. Sharing the sense of ownership, the spirit of cooperation, and the willingness to seek win-win solutions are much more important than making the Forum long or short, or putting in or taking out some wordings in the document. It is simple truth but we seem to forget sometimes that without each other's genuine cooperation, neither developed nor developing countries would be able to achieve effective development cooperation.

Together we can make an important step to build on last year's global actions and usher in a new era for sustainable development. For this, we must keep our spirit of collaboration alive at all levels.

Thank you.

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