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Chair: Ms. Stepowska (Vice-Chair) (Poland)
later: Mr. Cardi (Chair) (Italy)
later: Ms. Stepowska (Vice-Chair) (Poland)

Contents

Agenda item 24: Operational activities for development

- (a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system
- (b) South-South cooperation for development

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In the absence of Mr. Cardi (Italy), Ms. Stepowska (Poland), Vice-Chair, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 24: Operational activities for development (A/69/215)

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/69/63-E/2014/10, A/69/125 and Add.1 and A/69/392; A/C.2/69/2)

(b) South-South cooperation (A/69/39, A/69/153 and A/69/392; A/C.2/69/2)

1. **Ms. Mounla** (Chief of the Development Cooperation Policy Branch, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/69/63-E/2014/10) on behalf of Mr. Gass (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-agency Affairs), said that in response to resolution 2013/5 of the Economic and Social Council, the full analysis of funding of United Nations operational activities for development had, for the first time, been incorporated into the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. The analysis consolidated financial data on contributions and expenditures of United Nations entities that had reported such funding for operational activities for development in 2012.

2. Operational activities for development accounted for approximately 60 per cent of funding for all United Nations system-wide activities. Peacekeeping operations represented about 20 per cent, while the global norm and standard-setting policy and advocacy functions of the United Nations system accounted for the remaining 20 per cent. The nearly US\$24 billion in contributions to operational activities for development represented 17 per cent of total Official Development Assistance (ODA), making the United Nations system the largest multilateral partner.

3. The long-term absolute funding trend for operational activities for development had been favourable, with contributions having nearly doubled in real terms over the past 15-year period; the funding

environment remained challenging, however, as almost all that growth had been in the form of non-core resources. The share of core funding for United Nations operational activities for development had actually declined from 48 per cent in 1997 to 28 per cent in 2012, thus further highlighting crucial issues around cost recovery and critical.

4. The change in accounting standards in 2012 from the United Nations system accounting standards to the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) by a number of United Nations entities did not allow for meaningful trend comparisons between 2011 and 2012. The stagnation of post-crisis ODA levels between 2009 and 2012 had had a negative impact on the funding of operational activities for development.

5. Excluding local resources, contributions by countries that were not members of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to the United Nations development system had increased by about 75 per cent in nominal terms since 2007 and in 2012 amounted to \$1.2 billion, 40 per cent of which was in the form of core contributions. Funding by multilateral organizations and non-governmental and private sources had also steadily increased in the past five years, totalling \$4.7 billion in 2012, with major sources being global funds, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private sources, the European Commission and other intergovernmental organizations. Combined resources through those channels to the United Nations had increased by about 32 per cent in real terms over the past five years.

6. United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies had recently developed specific strategies to broaden their donor base with a number of Member States in all regions, including countries with emerging economies with immediate and long-term growth potential. While an increase in core funding remained a priority, contributions from countries towards their own country programmes and private sector partnerships were key elements to those strategies.

7. Non-core funding, mainly in the form of single-donor and programme-specific funding, had grown exponentially in the past 15 years, with implications for programme coherence and the overall efficiency of United Nations operational activities for development. Two thirds of the \$24.2 billion for United Nations operational activities for development in 2012 had

been spent on development-related activities, and the remaining third, on humanitarian activities. Just over half of country-level development-related expenditures went to least developed countries. Regionally, 43 per cent of country-level expenditures went to Africa, followed by 30 per cent for the Asia-Pacific region.

8. The 6.1 per cent increase in real terms of ODA in 2013 appeared to have had a positive impact on funding for United Nations operational activities for development; total contributions for operational activities for development were estimated to have increased by 10 per cent in real terms in 2013. However, the increase was entirely due to an increase in non-core funding, as core contributions remained at around the same level as in 2012. More detailed finalized figures would be available by the end of 2014.

9. **Mr. Achamkulangare** (Joint Inspection Unit), speaking also on behalf of Mr. Istvan Posta (Joint Inspection Unit) and introducing the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled "Selection and appointment process for United Nations resident coordinators, including preparation, training and support provided for their work" (A/69/125), said that Member States had emphasized the importance of improving the efficient operation of the resident coordinator system, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. Results depended on a number of interrelated factors, including governance, organizational, financial and human resources management. Addressing them judiciously was the joint responsibility of Member States and the senior management of the United Nations system organizations. Especially important was the selection of and support provided to key players, who presently operated in more than 140 countries.

10. While the established framework for the selection and appointment of resident coordinators had resulted in a more predictable, inclusive and participatory inter-agency process, and the composition of the resident coordinators was more diverse than at any other time in the past, the review had also found imbalances and transparency concerns. To address some of the remaining challenges, the JIU recommended that General Assembly should establish long-term targets on diversity regarding North-South balance and organization of origin in the composition of resident coordinators, in the hope that correcting the lack of diversity within the resident coordinator community would support the effective implementation

of the functional firewall. In addition, the heads of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) organizations should develop and implement appropriate guidelines for the identification, screening and preparation of potential resident coordinator candidates by the respective human resources management offices.

11. Specific measures included calling upon the United Nations system entities to undertake efforts similar to those undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to further gender diversity, and establishing a dedicated budget line to cover costs associated with the Resident Coordinator Assessment Centre and a mechanism for reimbursing successful candidates. Lastly, the Secretary-General should, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, revise the standard operating procedures of the Inter-Agency Advisory Panel, with a view to ensuring a more open nomination process for candidates who were already in the resident coordinator pool; addressing the possibility of incorporating interviews of shortlisted candidates; and changing the present Advisory Panel voting system by establishing a minimum required number of support votes (preferably 50 per cent of those voting) for a candidate to be shortlisted for consideration by the undg Chair.

12. The JIU had also made a number of soft recommendations to improve the selection and appointment process, including increasing the number of candidates nominated for assessment by the Resident Coordinator Assessment Centre, so the nominations could reflect the required diversity of candidates; grooming resident coordinator candidates at a much earlier stage in their careers; and incorporating the training costs of resident coordinators into the operational costs of the resident coordinator system. The identification and analysis of challenges, as well as the recommendations made, were expected to lead to improvements in the selection and appointment process and in the ownership of the Resident Coordinator system.

13. **Mr. Herman** (Senior Adviser on Information Management Policy Coordination, United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination), introducing the Note of the Secretary-General (A/69/125/Add.1) in response to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/69/125), said that organizations of the United Nations system welcomed the report's

comprehensive nature and appreciated the well-substantiated and balanced findings it contained. Considerable progress had been achieved by the United Nations system in selecting and appointing resident coordinators. Most of the challenges currently facing the selection and appointment process had been identified by the JIU in its report and the organizations of the United Nations system attached great value to the options presented to strengthen it.

14. Although those organizations agreed with the finding that a genuine sense of common ownership among UNDG members had proven elusive, as well as with the underlying cause, not all fully concurred with the recommended measures needed to address the issue. Some organizations believed that the existing management and accountability system did not go far enough in ensuring an effective functional firewall between the different roles that a resident coordinator must perform. A better division of labour among the United Nations development system entities at the country level might have an impact on buy-in by agency managers and staff members. With regard to the candidate selection process, several agencies had focused on the qualifications generally required, indicating that an emphasis on development work experience limited the ability of candidates from some of the normative organizations to compete.

15. The organizations generally agreed with the three recommendations presented in the report. Noting that recommendation 1 was directed at legislative bodies, organizations agreed with the call to establish targets for the diversity of resident coordinators, although they cautioned that targets should not be achieved at the expense of the general principle of selecting the most qualified candidates for the position.

16. Organizations also agreed with the call for United Nations system organizations that had not yet done so to develop and implement appropriate guidelines for the identification, screening and preparation of potential candidates for the resident coordinator positions, as called for in recommendation 2. Recommendation 3, which dealt with the review and revision of the standard operating procedures of the Inter-Agency Advisory Panel, was also welcomed by organizations. Overall organizations were highly satisfied with the report of the JIU, and their commentary focused on the challenges of operating the resident coordinator system in general.

17. **Mr. Zhou Yiping** (Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation ([A/69/153](#)), said that unlike previous reports, which broadly covered global trends, regional highlights and partner-specific South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives, the current report focused more on the United Nations development system support to South-South cooperation over the past year, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 68/230.

18. Support to South-South cooperation by United Nations system organizations had improved dramatically over the review period, largely as a result of three policy instruments: the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, the recommendations of the JIU following its 2011 review of South-South and triangular cooperation in the United Nations system ([JIU/REP/2011/3](#)), and the framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation ([SSC/17/3](#)). All three instruments had significantly influenced the performance of the entire United Nations system and substantially furthered support to South-South and triangular cooperation.

19. Owing to its convening power, global reach, country presence, technical expertise and impartiality, the United Nations system was well-positioned to help strengthen collaborative relations among developing countries. In implementing the framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation, the recommendations of the JIU were increasingly seen as benchmarks for many United Nations organizations in support of South-South cooperation, especially in promoting dialogue between Member States, knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, partnership building, and innovative financing, monitoring and evaluation.

20. The research and analytical work of the United Nations system was crucial in shaping the role of South-South cooperation in the formulation and eventual implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. The knowledge-sharing platforms established by many United Nations organizations were likewise important. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

(UNDIO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) had significantly contributed to building the national institutional capacity of developing countries and establishing centres of excellence. The innovative financing and partnership modalities of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) were also noteworthy, and would prove helpful in responding to the demands of the post-2015 development agenda. The five regional commissions of the Economic and Social Council continued to play a key role in the promotion of South-South cooperation at regional and subregional levels, focusing mainly on the economic integration of each developing region.

21. The report stressed the need for coherent and effective coordination of United Nations support to South-South cooperation consistent with the decisions of the eighteenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation. Many of the recommendations made in the report were consistent with those contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and of the JIU, and in the Nairobi outcome document. One key recommendation was to formally establish an inter-agency coordination mechanism under the UNDG.

22. **Mr. Llorentty Solíz** (Plurinational State of Bolivia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that strengthening the role of United Nations operational activities for development and the Organization's capacity to assist developing countries in achieving their development goals, would require continued improvement in effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact, along with a significant increase in resources. United Nations operational activities for development must remain universal, voluntary, neutral, multilateral and flexible. In addressing long-term development challenges, they must take into account the need to promote national capacity-building in developing countries, which was necessary for addressing national priorities and achieving internationally agreed development goals.

23. In December 2012, the quadrennial comprehensive policy review resolution had given a unanimous mandate to the United Nations development system to prioritize the eradication of poverty in all its programming activities, through capacity-building, employment generation, education, vocational training,

rural development and resource mobilization. The Organization was now expected to report on the concrete measures taken in the area of highest priority for the system's operational activities.

24. Evaluation procedures were a useful tool of course correction for United Nations entities, provided their findings and recommendations were taken seriously and steps were implemented in compliance with their recommendations. Two years had passed since the last evaluation of the contribution of UNDP to poverty reduction, but nothing had been done to ensure compliance with the recommendations. Compliance with the recommendations and results of evaluation reports with regard to the various programmes should be ensured, lest the evaluation process amount to a redundant stocktaking exercise.

25. Reaffirming the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, he said that South-South cooperation was a manifestation of solidarity among the peoples and countries of the South that contributed to their national well-being and collective self-reliance, and ultimately to the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). South-South cooperation must be defined by countries of the South and must remain guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty and ownership, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit. It was important to strengthen South-South cooperation, especially in the current economic climate, as a strategy to sustain the development efforts of developing countries and to enhance their participation in the global economy.

26. South-South cooperation was a complement to, rather than a substitute for, North-South cooperation and the collective endeavour of developing countries, based on the principle of solidarity and premises, conditions and objectives that were specific to the historic and political context of developing countries and to their needs and expectations. As such, South-South cooperation merited its own separate and independent promotion, as reaffirmed in the Nairobi outcome document.

27. The Group supported the integration of South-South and triangular cooperation in the policies and strategic framework of funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as its strengthening through the system-wide provision of additional

resources, including through financial and human resources to the Office for South-South Cooperation. Consequently, the Group requested the establishment of a more formalized and strengthened inter-agency mechanism for that Office, with a view to encouraging joint support for South-South and triangular initiatives, and to sharing information on development activities and results achieved by various funds, agencies and organizations in support of South-South and triangular cooperation.

28. **Mr. Torrington** (Guyana), speaking on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), said that the Committee's consideration of agenda item 24 was particularly timely, given the inextricable linkages between the creation of a post-2015 development agenda and the operational activities for development of the United Nations system. Although progress had been made in fulfilling the mandates arising from the quadrennial review, the results had been uneven, particularly regarding coherence and effectiveness.

29. Poverty eradication, economic growth and sustainable development must be the guiding principles for operational activities for development, which should be carried out in a flexible manner that was responsive to the development needs of programme countries. All activities must be carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their national policies and priorities for development.

30. The provision of adequate and predictable funding for the United Nations system, particularly for its operational activities, was integral to the system's effectiveness in fulfilling its mandate. CARICOM was concerned that there had been virtually no improvement in the adequacy and predictability of funding provided for operational activities for development, thus creating several limitations that were likely to have an increasingly negative impact given a range of new and existing challenges. The United Nations system played a crucial role in addressing the long-term development challenges of recipient countries by ensuring the promotion and transfer of new technologies, by increasing system-wide capacity-building and by enabling and facilitating access to all services, including the regional commissions and their subregional offices. Therefore, Member States must ensure the quantity, quality and predictability of resources to be used for development assistance.

31. The significant and growing imbalance between core and non-core funding was a matter of concern, as it led to inconsistency in programme delivery and ultimately undercut development effectiveness for recipient countries. Regardless of the reason behind increased non-core resources, their unpredictability led to higher operational costs and further fragmented the United Nations system. It was therefore important to ensure an equitable balance between core and non-core resources, as well as an increasing and even-handed base of development assistance that was responsive to national policies and free from conditionalities.

32. Operational activities for development should encourage national capacity-building in recipient countries. In order for developing countries to address national priorities and achieve the internationally agreed development goals, development assistance must come from a reliable source of core funding. It was worrying that ODA levels had not met the targets to which development partners had committed, in fact continuing to decrease while major funding gaps persisted, and that the majority of donors were still not on track to meet those commitments. Without a considerable increase in ODA levels for operational activities for development, basic goals were unlikely to be met. The Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (Samoa Pathway) had highlighted the critical issue of funding for small island developing States and placed emphasis on partnerships to address it.

33. South-South cooperation must be integrated into the operational activities of the United Nations system in such a way that development programmes and activities fully supported and promoted South-South and triangular cooperation. At the same time, South-South cooperation should remain complementary to North-South cooperation and should not be interpreted as a substitute thereof. In order for multilateral development cooperation activities to be successful, the execution of mandates must include system-wide actions that were rational and harmonized, without resorting to a one-size-fits-all approach and consistently focusing on effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of programmes in developing countries.

34. **Ms. Nguyen** Phuong Nga (Viet Nam), speaking on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), said that the United Nations development system had played an important role in supporting national efforts to achieve socioeconomic

development throughout the world, including in ASEAN member States. ASEAN welcomed the Organization's ongoing commitment and invited it to work even more closely with ASEAN to implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership, especially in the context of the transition towards the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015.

35. ASEAN underscored the need for a comprehensive report on operational activities for development that included data and analysis on progress achieved, activities conducted, and challenges faced by the United Nations development system in implementing the mandates of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. The stagnating funding for operational activities in recent years and the growing imbalance between core and non-core resources were issues of concern and posed difficulties for the effective operation of the development system, especially at the national level. ASEAN called on donor countries to honour their commitments to provide financing for operational activities, particularly for core resources, which were key to ensuring the independence and neutrality of the system.

36. ASEAN commended the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies that had aligned their new strategic plans with the quadrennial review both in timing and content, incorporating the priorities laid out in General Assembly resolution 67/226 into their respective strategic plans. ASEAN specifically encouraged focusing on capacity-building, which was crucial for the long-term ability to address development challenges by developing countries, particularly least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and middle-income countries.

37. Given the central role of the United Nations in coordinating efforts to address emerging challenges, ASEAN supported strengthening system-wide coherence at all levels and welcomed the adoption of the UDG standard operating procedures for countries wishing to adopt the "Delivering as one" approach, which underlined the importance of strong national ownership and alignment of United Nations programming with national plans and priorities. The soon-to-be completed Green One UN House was a good example in Viet Nam of the progress made in joint approaches to procurement and establishing basic common services. However, simplification and harmonization of business practices remained challenging, and further progress was needed, including the establishment of common

support services at all levels, based on unified regulations and rules, policies and procedures in all functional areas of business operations, by 2016. "Delivering as one" was not a one-size-fits-all approach and must accommodate the specific requirements of recipient countries.

38. The growing role of South-South and triangular cooperation added to the diversity of modalities in which countries worked together to promote development; many countries of the South had taken advantage of common economic, social and regional characteristics to forge and boost partnerships and cooperation in various fields, in particular low-cost knowledge and expertise sharing. The nature of South-South cooperation, based on mutual trust, equality and especially non-conditionality, created conditions that allowed developing countries to better implement policy for priority areas of development.

39. However, South-South cooperation should be considered not as a substitute for but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation. Despite the emergence of a number of developing countries providing development assistance, total contributions from developing countries for operational activities for development accounted for only 5 per cent of overall funding. ASEAN therefore called on developed countries to meet their ODA commitments and encouraged Member States to promote triangular cooperation. ASEAN member states, in implementing the Initiative for ASEAN Integration, were striving to narrow intercountry development gaps, in part by sharing knowledge, best practices and expertise with fellow developing countries, and called on the United Nations system and development partners to support such actions.

40. **Mr. Msosa** (Malawi), speaking on behalf of the African Group, said that Africa's progress in achieving the MDGs remained uneven. Serious challenges remained with regard to eradicating poverty, including the creation of decent jobs and full employment opportunities; eradicating hunger and malnutrition; reducing infant and maternal mortality; addressing pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria; and ensuring adequate access to clean water and basic sanitation.

41. The focus on the post-2015 development agenda should not, in any circumstances, divert from the goal of achieving the MDGs by the end of 2015. The

African Group reaffirmed the need to accelerate progress and enhance assistance for the achievement of the MDGs. Solidarity in the context of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation was indispensable in that regard. Operational activities for development were of utmost importance for the part they played in addressing the root causes of poverty, inter alia by taking into account African development needs. Poverty eradication was not possible without meaningful economic transformation, which itself could not be achieved without focusing especially on industrialization, job creation and infrastructure. It was therefore appropriate that the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals had addressed such issues in an integrated and forward-looking manner in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

42. Both the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review stated that poverty eradication was the greatest global challenge and also indispensable for sustainable development. The African Group called for a comprehensive update from United Nations funds, programmes and agencies detailing the practical steps taken to eradicate poverty.

43. The achievement of internationally agreed development goals required adequate, stable and predictable financing; in the context of the United Nations development system, the imbalance between core and non-core resources thus remained a matter of concern. Such an imbalance was likely to jeopardize the consistency of objectives and actions and undermine the ability of the development system to fulfil its mandate, while fragmenting contributions owing to rules and preferences specific to each donor. Steps should be taken to reverse that trend.

44. It was important to achieve diversification in the composition of the resident coordinator system and resident coordinator pools in terms of geographical distribution, gender and agency of origin. With regard to the two pilot, independent system-wide evaluations that the General Assembly had decided to conduct in 2014, the Group took note of the explanations provided by the Secretariat on the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources and reaffirmed the importance of the evaluations. The mainstreaming of South-South and triangular cooperation into strategic planning and creating closer linkages between the regional

commissions and UNDG, as referred to in the report of the Secretary-General (A/69/63), should be further reinforced.

45. *Mr. Cardì (Italy) took the Chair.*

46. **Mr. Alemu** (Ethiopia), speaking on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries, said that strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations development system had long been a critical task of the international community to enable United Nations entities to provide necessary support to programme countries. The adoption of the quadrennial review in 2012 had been instrumental in terms of improving the delivery of development entities to maximize impact at different levels, particularly in the field. The Group was pleased that for the first time, the report integrated both the analysis of the funding of United Nations operational activities for the development and the implementation of the quadrennial review. The fact that several United Nations entities had already aligned their new strategic plans with the quadrennial review would help to ensure the coherent and effective functioning of the United Nations development system, particularly in gearing collective efforts towards realizing the “Delivering as one” agenda.

47. The operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council, held in early 2014, had been critical to gathering the views of Member States on how to adapt the United Nations system in order to overcome development challenges in a rapidly changing global development landscape. All efforts undertaken, however, would not bring about the desired results if funding-related issues were not addressed. Results had not been encouraging thus far, and it was worrisome that funding had been stagnating since 2009, with the share of core resources decreasing. That trend must be reversed if an even more ambitious post-2015 development agenda was to be achieved.

48. As much as cost recovery work was critical to addressing the downward trends of United Nations funding, it was also time to take bold measures within the new global partnership framework to address the challenges surrounding core resources. Even though the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services, in 2012, had reiterated that at least

60 per cent of core resources should be allocated to least developed countries, that share had in fact remained constant, at just over half of all development-related expenditures. The Group therefore called on development partners to increase their contributions in order to achieve the targets set for the least developed countries and to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (Istanbul Programme of Action).

49. In the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda, it was important to highlight the role of South-South cooperation in providing support to developing countries, especially least developed countries. The Group was encouraged by the increasing recognition within the United Nations development system of the critical importance of South-South cooperation and by the mainstreaming of South-South and triangular cooperation into strategic planning and the creation of closer linkages between the regional commissions and UNDG. South-South cooperation had laid a strong partnership framework from which all countries benefited enormously and which should therefore be recognized as one of the pillars of the post-2015 development agenda, acting as a complement to, and not a substitute for, North-South cooperation.

50. **Mr. Beviglia Zampetti** (Observer for the European Union), speaking also on behalf of the candidate countries Albania, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the stabilization and association process country Bosnia and Herzegovina; and, in addition, Armenia and Georgia, said that the quadrennial comprehensive policy review continued to represent an important milestone in collective efforts to ensure the United Nations system delivered coherent, effective and efficient development results. Although significant progress continued to be made, his delegation called on the United Nations development system to strive to clearly articulate the goals achieved and the progress made through the use of consistent indicators, while keeping transaction costs and reporting burdens, particularly at the country level, to a minimum. In the implementation of the quadrennial review, gender-related issues required continued attention; from the perspective of national capacity-building, better linkages between the normative and operational work of the development system were also essential.

51. All funds, programmes and specialized agencies were urged to implement and monitor the cost-sharing arrangement for the resident coordinator system in order to ensure that the necessary resources were made available to achieve more impact at country level. His delegation expected the entire United Nations development system to fully and immediately implement the standard operating procedures for countries wishing to adopt the “Delivering as one” approach. As indicated in the quadrennial review, business practices should be further simplified and harmonized, and bottlenecks at the headquarters level should be addressed through the streamlining of programming, funding, reporting and accountability mechanisms, in particular through the full implementation of the management and accountability system.

52. Financial flows to the United Nations development system had increased substantially over the past 15 years, and were especially concentrated in non-core resources, despite the fact that core resources were the bed-rock of development agencies. While non-core resources could play a complementary role when aligned with national priorities and the strategic plans of United Nations agencies, they must be more predictable and flexible, giving priority to pooled, thematic and joint funding mechanisms at all levels.

53. Member States had a collective responsibility to ensure adequate and timely funding of the workplans and budgets approved by the governing bodies of United Nations development agencies. Consequently, structured dialogues such as those organized by the executive boards of several funds and programmes earlier in 2014 should be held on an annual basis, to monitor and follow up the predictability, flexibility and alignment of resources allocated to the implementation of respective strategic plans, and to address funding gaps. All funding, both core and non-core, should be responsive to the needs of programme countries, in line with the respective mandate of the implementing funds and programmes, and should deliver the maximum development impact. The national ownership of development priorities; a “managing for results” approach; inclusive development partnerships, and transparency and accountability should guide the funding practices of all Member States. The United Nations system should continue to put in place robust results frameworks and results-based management

systems for increased development impact and to ensure that funding was aligned with strategic plans.

54. Despite the crucial role of the United Nations as the guardian of internationally agreed goals, objectives and norms, it remained complex and fragmented. In the context of the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda, the European Union welcomed the decision to convene a transparent and inclusive dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system, including making the system “fit for purpose” by addressing the interlinkages between the alignment of functions, funding practices, governance structures, capacity and impact of the United Nations development system, partnership approaches and organizational arrangements.

55. The European Union and its member States attached great importance to the full implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. At a time of strained national budgets, when all donors needed to make special efforts to make good on their ODA commitments, effective and efficient use of the scarce resources available was all the more important.

56. **Mr. Nkombela** (South Africa) said that the United Nations development system remained crucial for providing development support. Such support was provided in a coordinated and coherent manner, motivated by the ultimate objective of eradicating poverty in all its forms in developing countries. The operational activities for development of the United Nations system must be closely aligned with national priorities, in order to respond appropriately to countries’ development needs and objectives. As operational activities for development were directly dependent on predictable, stable core resources, his delegation called on the United Nations and Member States to address the persistent imbalance between core and non-core resources, which continued to create fragmentation, competition and overlap among agencies. Core resources were the bed-rock of operational activities for development. His delegation also encouraged further consultations with executive boards on the principle of critical mass in 2014.

57. A coherent and well-functioning United Nations development system depended on effective coordination through a strengthened resident coordinator system, which should moreover be diversified with regard to geographical distribution and gender in its composition. The United Nations development system

also needed to harmonize and simplify business practices to achieve significant cost reductions and efficiency gains in the provision of support services and maximize capacity development at the national level.

58. **Mr. Hajji** (Kuwait) said that South-South cooperation had become a key element of modern international relations and an important force in the world economy. ODA was also a pillar for developing and least developed countries to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and eradication of poverty. In that respect, Kuwait welcomed the third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in Addis Ababa in July 2015, and stressed the need to include consolidation of South-South cooperation and the recognition of ODA as an important source for financing development in its debates.

59. Kuwait had taken a pioneering role in that regard, hosting the third Africa-Arab Summit in 2013 under the theme of “Partners in Development and Investment”. The outcome document called for the promotion of South-South cooperation between African and Arab countries, and the building of closer relations between the Governments and peoples of the two regions through frequent visits and consultations at all levels. Kuwait had launched several initiatives during the Summit, including granting concessionary loans to African countries in the amount of \$1 billion over the following five years, and allocating \$1 billion for investment purposes, especially in infrastructure, in coordination with the World Bank and other international financial institutions. It was not the first time Kuwait had taken the lead on matters of development: in 2009, it had hosted the first Arab Economic and Social Development Summit and established a \$2 billion fund, to which its Government had contributed \$500 million, to finance small and medium enterprises. A similar initiative had been announced at the first Asia Cooperation Dialogue summit. His Government was committed to South-South cooperation, and believed that it was complementary to North-South cooperation, hence its active role in the North-South dialogue within the framework of the Brandt Commission.

60. Kuwait had established the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development in 1961, just six months after gaining independence. The Fund had since expanded beyond the Arab framework and had provided

development assistance to over 100 countries worldwide; it was now worth \$18 billion. The soft loans related to projects in infrastructure, transportation, health, energy and education, and also covered technical assistance and training.

61. Kuwait had consistently exceeded the United Nations aid target for developed countries of 0.7 per cent of gross national income (GNI), with an average ODA between 1990 and 2003 of 1.31 per cent of GNP. Kuwait called on developed nations to meet their ODA commitments as well. Given the myriad, evermore complex challenges facing the world, Kuwait urged renewed political will to forge an international partnership to help developing and least developed countries to achieve the MDGs and the sustainable development goals and to strengthen cooperation with all development partners, especially the private sector and civil society.

62. **Ms. Fladby** (Norway) said that reform of the United Nations development system was of the utmost importance. The linkages between normative and operational mandates, as well as the recognized legitimacy, universality and broad country presence of the United Nations, meant it had a unique role to play. It was crucial to remain flexible and relevant, adapting to global and national changes and continuously improving operational methods.

63. While her delegation noted with interest that 40 countries had already adopted the “Delivering as one” approach, and that progress was being made in the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, shortcomings remained. The next report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the quadrennial review would be the first report based on the agreed monitoring framework. Norway looked forward to evidence-based discussions that could help to ensure full implementation of the quadrennial review and the continued relevance of the United Nations development system.

64. Although Norway welcomed the UNDG arrangement on cost-sharing of the resident coordinator system, it was concerned that not all entities were paying their fair share. Member States had a responsibility to ensure that United Nations coordination expenditure was included in the approved budgets of all entities.

65. The discrepancy between Member States’ expectations of the United Nations development

system and the way in which the system was funded must be recognized. Stronger efforts must be made to support expectations with funding modalities that allowed the system to carry out its mandates efficiently. Norway thus welcomed the Structured Dialogues on Financing as a first joint effort to better align financial resources with the priorities of the strategic plans of the respective organizations.

66. The negotiation of the post-2015 agenda was an opportunity to move discussions beyond the incremental changes in the development system as called for in the quadrennial review. The development system had an important role to play in the implementation of the sustainable development goals, with regard to global public goods as well as achievements in individual countries. However, Member States must ensure that the United Nations development system would be fit for purpose and better aligned with the other relevant parts of the United Nations. The development system should be enabled to carry out its work based on its comparative advantages. In that regard, her delegation welcomed the decision of the Economic and Social Council in 2013 to convene a dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system.

67. **Ms. Colín Ortega** (Mexico) said that the United Nations development system had continued in 2014 to devote efforts to implementing the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, achieving the MDGs and elaborating a post-2015 development agenda, which were now part of the new Economic and Social Council framework. Her delegation emphasised the importance of support for the United Nations development system with regard to middle-income countries in the fight against poverty. Resources that came within the framework of operational activities for development should be allocated with a focus on more than just per capita income, using instead qualitative and multidimensional criteria and recognizing that middle-income countries still needed international cooperation for development. In that regard, Mexico stressed the objectives contained in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Mexico 2014-2019, based on six key areas of cooperation between Mexico and the United Nations system: equality, equity and inclusion; productive economic development, competitiveness and decent work; environmental sustainability and green economy;

citizen security, social cohesion and justice; democratic governance; and a global partnership for development.

68. The operational activities of the United Nations development system must be made as efficient and effective as possible, and must be based on the relevant internationally agreed principles. Her delegation recognized the importance of the Results-based Management Handbook for programme countries, in particular for the benefit of harmonizing operational programmes with quantifiable results. The complexity of development challenges required the United Nations system to mobilize external resources, simultaneously promoting the universal support of the international community and involving non-traditional actors, such as foundations, civil society organizations, the private sector and different local actors.

69. Development challenges also required different forms of cooperation, especially South-South and triangular cooperation, based on the principles of solidarity, non-conditionality and mutual benefit. Such forms of cooperation presented alternatives to exchange best practices and information between countries facing similar challenges, to promote national development in partner countries, and to contribute to institutional strengthening by involving local actors. Despite its growing importance, South-South cooperation should remain a complement to, and not a substitute for, North-South cooperation. Technical and financial assistance from traditional donors would continue to be fundamental for supporting the development efforts of countries of the South.

70. **Ms. Adnin** (Malaysia) said that her delegation commended the efforts of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to achieve the goals set forth in the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. It was concerned, however, that ongoing financial shortfalls and the growing imbalance between core and non-core resources was undermining the effectiveness of the Organization's development programmes and the wider United Nations development system. Donor countries must honour their commitments to fund United Nations operational activities and, to ensure that the Organization achieved a critical mass of core resources, any increases in earmarked funds must be made in tandem with increases in core funding.

71. Although developing countries must deepen their economic and technical cooperation with each other,

traditional development partners must also support those countries' efforts to foster South-South cooperation. In that regard, Malaysia welcomed the widening scope of triangular cooperation, which could greatly facilitate South-South initiatives, inter alia, by mobilizing additional funding, providing training and encouraging the sharing of best practices. Malaysia also commended initiatives by developed countries and other multilateral stakeholders to provide technical assistance to developing countries to help them achieve their development goals.

72. Developing countries' initiatives to promote development within the context of South-South cooperation should not be seen as an alternative to ODA, which would remain critical if developing countries were to achieve the outstanding MDGs and implement the post-2015 development agenda. Traditional development partners were therefore urged to honour their ODA commitments without further delay.

73. Malaysia was an increasingly active international partner for development, and firmly believed that South-South cooperation could provide significant momentum for social and economic development. The Government shared its expertise and best practices with other developing countries in areas where it had a comparative advantage through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme, which had provided training to more 27,000 participants from 143 developing countries. Since 1980, Malaysia had spent over \$200 million to support that Programme and, in September 2014, had pledged an additional \$1 million, which would be used to fund courses and programmes to support genuine, sustainable partnerships with small island developing States in key areas, including public administration and management, tourism and the environment.

74. **Ms. Derderian** (United States of America) said that the upcoming negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, financing for development and climate change presented a unique opportunity for the United Nations to ensure that it was fit for purpose and made best use of its resources. The quadrennial comprehensive policy review would help the Organization be an effective partner in efforts to eradicate poverty, empower women, educate children, spur economic growth and improve the lives of the next generation. As part of the policy review, United Nations funds and programmes had already examined

their budgets, operations, business models and staffing patterns, and the major United Nations aid agencies were committed to using results-based metrics to track and measure progress — a critical demand of the post-2015 developed agenda and increasingly of donor and programme countries. The policy review was helping the Organization and Member States to assess assistance delivery, promote philanthropy and South-South and triangular cooperation, and strengthen the role of the private sector and civil society in development initiatives. Stakeholders must consider the unique mandates and missions of the various development agencies, and seek to capitalize on the particular strengths of each individual agency while promoting inter-agency coherence and avoiding unnecessary competition for scarce resources or market share.

75. The process of internal reflection on policy coherence that was taking place within the United Nations development system was encouraging. Follow-up to the quadrennial comprehensive policy review must be anchored in the evolving post-2015 development agenda. His delegation welcomed the start of discussions on the long-term role of the United Nations development system and looked forward to engaging in that process with its partners.

76. His delegation commended the integrated results and resources frameworks adopted by several United Nations agencies, which allowed those agencies, their partners and the public to track development results against inputs and investments. Each agency must strive to foster a culture in which evaluation was seen as an essential tool for improving programme performance at all levels. Without consistent and useful evaluation to guide their planning and allowing for course corrections when necessary, agencies could not determine how they could best contribute to the achievement of the post-2015 development agenda.

77. **Mr. Patriota** (Brazil) said that the United Nations development system must be ready to meet the challenges that would arise in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and, in line with the vision articulated at the Rio+20 Conference, must seek to promote social inclusion, economic growth and environmental sustainability. UNDP, for example, must modify what was, essentially, a North-South approach in order to more effectively address cross-cutting sustainable development issues such as poverty, inequality, discrimination and the rights of migrants. At

the third International Conference on Financing for Development, stakeholders must build upon the guidelines for future action set forth in the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and decide how they could best implement the new agenda.

78. To further promote South-South and triangular cooperation, which tended to be demand-driven and based on partnerships among equals, solidarity, local ownership and non-conditionality, it was crucial to implement the recommendations of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, particularly its recommendation that the Office for South-South Cooperation should be strengthened. Brazil emphasized, however, that many developing countries would continue to rely on the United Nations development system in their efforts to promote development and that, despite the changes that were expected to take place in the post-2015 development landscape, traditional North-South development assistance would remain crucial; the widening scope of South-South and triangular cooperation should not be seen as a pretext for reducing ODA flows.

79. It was crucial that the Organization's specialized agencies, funds and programmes, which accounted for 60 per cent of all activities carried out by the United Nations system, fulfilled their mandates. Accountability and system-wide coordination were also critical, particularly when the private sector, philanthropic institutions and transnational corporations were becoming more actively involved in development initiatives and voluntary contributions were increasingly earmarked for particular purposes and projects. In that regard, it was clear that the infrequent meetings of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, where delegations were presented with a large number of technical reports and could respond only by delivering short statements, did not constitute an effective governance mechanism.

80. Greater clarity was needed as to how the proposed partnership facility, to be established within the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, would affect or overlap with existing partnership activities carried out by various United Nations bodies and build upon the lessons learned by the Executive Office itself. Discussions on an effective accountability framework should take place among the Member States prior to any scaling up of finance outsourcing, including in connection with the post-2015 development agenda.

81. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes must work closely not only with each other, but also with Member States, including via officials from permanent missions in New York, who must be given the opportunity to meet the heads of relevant United Nations bodies. Member States' views must be taken into account. In that regard, Brazil underlined the political sensitivity for many States of the proposed fourth dimension to sustainable development, namely peace and security. Member States must also play a more active role in managing the budgets and resources of cooperative development initiatives, and must, by 2015, define the critical mass of core resources that was needed to achieve desired goals. As key stakeholders in the United Nations system, States had a collective responsibility to ensure that their voluntary financial contributions provided for greater flexibility, predictability and alignment with States' national development priorities. It was, moreover, important to consider all relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and decisions of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination, including with regard to independent system-wide evaluations, when monitoring implementation of the proposals contained in the quadrennial comprehensive policy review.

82. **Mr. Pisarevich** (Belarus) said that the United Nations system, though it was not the sole player in global development, had a significant role to play, as it provided around a fifth of all ODA. Although the contributions of the United Nations system had grown quantitatively in the last decade, the qualitative parameters were cause for concern. Growth in the operational activities of the United Nations system had occurred mainly through non-core resources, while the total core resources had been steadily falling for several years. That trend impeded opportunities for United Nations systems agencies to implement the mandates given to them by Member States, as non-core resources were neither predictable nor reliable for supporting development processes. It was urgent to develop a critical mass of core resources.

83. Across country categories, it was appropriate that most resources for operational activities for development were allocated to low-income countries. However, it was also necessary to remember to support middle-income countries, which accounted for two thirds of all Member States and possessed their own specific development issues. The time had come for the United Nations system to draw up an inter-agency plan

of action for cooperation with middle-income countries, as agreed at many past conferences. The stability and economic progress of middle-income countries would in turn have a positive effect on least developed countries. It was important to establish cooperation between those two groups of countries, based on national priorities and national strategic documents. His delegation praised the successful cooperation of its Government with United Nations system agencies in developing a new framework programme for the period 2016-2020 with a clearly defined socioeconomic thrust.

84. **Mr. Narang** (India) said that by virtue of their extensive presence on the ground and local expertise, United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes were uniquely placed to assist developing countries in pursuing their developmental priorities and achieving internationally agreed development goals. Poverty eradication must remain the primary objective of United Nations operational activities for development, which should be flexible in order to successfully address the particular challenges faced by individual developing countries. The United Nations development system must, moreover, refrain from making the provision of assistance dependent on recipients meeting certain conditions.

85. South-South aid flows had been estimated at \$19 billion in 2011. Those aid flows were extremely diverse, involved many public and private sector stakeholders, and funded a wide range of initiatives, from large infrastructure projects to small capacity building and knowledge sharing initiatives. While the scope of South-South cooperation had expanded significantly since the global financial crisis, overall assistance from developed countries had fallen during that period. Indeed, certain stakeholders believed that South-South cooperation should gradually replace traditional North-South assistance mechanisms and there were calls, including from within the United Nations development system itself, for the elaboration of universal norms and common benchmarks for all development assistance, regardless of origin.

86. Traditional North-South and South-South cooperation models were, however, based on fundamentally different principles: while the former was a historic responsibility, South-South cooperation was a voluntary partnership among equals that was demand-driven, free of conditionalities and focused on the development priorities of partner countries.

Attempts to replace North-South assistance with South-South aid flows and harmonize benchmarks were misplaced, as were attempts to monetize South-South flows and compel certain larger developing countries to make significant aid commitments. South-South cooperation could only supplement North-South cooperation, not replace it. Developed countries must honour their existing aid commitments and scale up their assistance, especially as many developing countries, including the so-called emerging economies, had limited capacity to increase their contributions to international development cooperation. In that connection, India emphasized that over \$5 trillion was required annually just to implement key infrastructure projects. South-South cooperation should not, therefore, constitute a key component of any new global partnership for development. Instead, developed countries should give priority consideration to ways in which they could spur rapid and sustained economic growth in developing countries.

87. **Ms. Al-Fadalah** (Qatar) said that global peace and prosperity were essential prerequisites for meeting the aspirations of the peoples of the global South, and that South-South cooperation helped foster a culture of solidarity among developing countries that could strengthen their capacity to eradicate poverty, promote sustainable economic development and self-sufficiency and address the challenges posed by climate change. South-South cooperation could, moreover, ensure that developing countries' voices were heard on the global stage and could help achieve consensus in negotiations on the formulation and implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. The United Nations could play a key role in supporting South-South cooperation; his Government called for greater coordination and coherence within the United Nations development system to achieve that objective.

88. Qatar had consistently supported initiatives to expand the scope of South-South cooperation. It had hosted a number of key international conferences, including the Second South Summit of the Group of 77, whose outcome document, the Doha Plan of Action, had set forth steps for expanding cooperation and trade between countries of the global South, particularly in areas such as communication and information technology. Qatar had also hosted the first Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo, which had sought to promote the exchange of expertise and best practices and match stakeholders seeking

technical assistance with appropriate assistance providers. Qatar would continue to work with the international community on ways to strengthen South-South cooperation and achieve sustainable development.

89. **Ms. Boissiere** (Trinidad and Tobago) said that as a middle-income developing country and net contributor to its United Nations country programme, Trinidad and Tobago closely followed the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process. It shared the concerns of many other countries with regard to declining core resources, the imbalance between core and non-core resources and certain States' ongoing failure to uphold their ODA commitments, and stressed that United Nations operational activities for development must remain multilateral and impartial and continue to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible, coherent and effective manner in line with their national development plans and priorities.

90. The establishment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and recent reforms of the Economic and Social Council would help stakeholders monitor the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. The new agenda must, inter alia, enhance system-wide coherence so that the United Nations development system could more effectively support developing countries' efforts to foster development. In particular, United Nations agencies must strive to avoid fragmentation and duplication of efforts. In that connection, Trinidad and Tobago welcomed the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, which was already boosting the effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and relevance of the United Nations operational activities for development.

91. Nine United Nations agencies operated in Trinidad and Tobago, which was constantly seeking ways to enhance its engagement with the Organization, achieve greater synergy between its national development agenda and United Nations system deliverables and align its national development priorities with internationally agreed development objectives. Furthermore, with a view to enhancing communication, collaboration and coordination and increasing efficiency, Trinidad and Tobago was planning to accommodate the offices of all United Nations agencies operating in the country under one roof.

92. Country programmes would require additional resources so that they could continue to deliver targeted and effective assistance to developing countries, which were still struggling to address the repercussions of the global financial and economic crisis. That assistance must be led by recipient countries so that operational activities for development were in line with each country's national development plans. Furthermore, in its efforts to promote development, the international community should reject a "one-size-fits-all" approach. In particular, the United Nations development system must place greater emphasis on addressing the structural challenges in middle-income countries and the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, and to that end, promote full implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy and the Samoa Pathway.

93. *Ms. Stepowska (Poland), Vice-Chair, took the Chair.*

94. **Mr. Zehnder** (Switzerland) said that it would be necessary to determine the role of the development system in the context of the new post-2015 agenda. The challenges facing Member States had changed over the years, and now included global public goods, the stability of financial markets and the containment of transnational epidemics. A post-2015 development agenda would require the strategic repositioning of the United Nations development system, including the updating of structures, organizational models and financing and governance modalities. The United Nations "fit for purpose" debate would help to determine the necessary adjustments to better respond to the demands of the new agenda. Member States should guide the Organization in determining which changes would be required specifically in the context of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review.

95. Recalling that the 2012 quadrennial comprehensive policy review had already provided guidelines on the changes needed in the United Nations development system, he said that his delegation appreciated the progress made concerning standard operating procedures, the strengthening of the resident coordinator system, the adoption of a harmonized cost-recovery rate and calculation methodology, and a system-wide action plan on gender mainstreaming, as

well as the guidance note on the gender equality marker.

96. Nevertheless, a number of points in the quadrennial review remained to be addressed, including the simplification and harmonization of operational activities and independent system-wide evaluation of the United Nations. The report of the Secretary-General that would be presented during the 2015 operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council should highlight the efficiency gains generated by the "Delivering as one" approach. It should furthermore serve to enhance the monitoring function of the operational activities segment and its ensuing resolution, in particular by enabling Member States to participate in informed discussions.

97. **Mr. Sekiguchi** (Japan) said that significant progress had been made towards implementing the recommendations contained in the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, a key instrument that could enhance the role of the United Nations in the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs, and in the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda.

98. Japan welcomed efforts to develop an innovative, coherent and comprehensive monitoring and reporting framework to follow up on the comprehensive policy review; commended those United Nations entities that had aligned their strategic plans with the review; and urged all other entities that had not yet done so to follow suit. Japan also welcomed progress towards the simplification and harmonization of business practices among United Nations entities, including the establishment of a pilot "One United Nations" service centre in Brazil, inter-agency framework agreements on the provision of country-level support services, and efforts to standardize the measurement of operating costs and to establish a common cost control mechanism.

99. Discussions concerning the balance between core and non-core resources must not lead to a reduction in overall resource levels. However, it should be borne in mind that, when used effectively, non-core resources could complement resources and enhance the impact of United Nations initiatives in developing countries.

100. Recent efforts to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation were welcome, especially as renewed global partnerships would play a critical role

in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. Japan had been a supporter of what was now known as South-South cooperation for some 60 years, and had been one of the first countries to implement projects to foster triangular cooperation. Those had included projects to help Latin American countries emulate Japan's highly successful community policing techniques, which had helped those countries reduce crime rates significantly.

101. South-South and triangular cooperation enabled developing countries to benefit from technology and knowledge transfer and develop their capacities as true partners in development. Japan, a country once considered a member of the global South that was now a member of the global North, emphasized that making geographical distinctions were not necessarily helpful when all developing and developed States must work together to promote sustainable development. In that context, Japan underlined that the United Nations development system could help bring together all stakeholders, including Member States, the private sector, civil society and philanthropic organizations, with a view to achieving common goals.

102. **Mr. Lorenzo** (Dominican Republic) said that South-South cooperation had contributed significantly to global economic recovery and could offer innovative ideas regarding the implementation of a post-2015 development agenda. His delegation was also pleased with the important role played by South-South cooperation in contemporary international relations, especially in improving domestic markets and national productivity, with a view to increasing demand for Dominican products that would be available in international, regional and subregional markets worldwide.

103. There was a direct correlation in the Dominican Republic between an increase in South-South cooperation and the flow of foreign direct investment, which had allowed the country to achieve significant economic growth and to make progress in providing basic needs for all Dominicans, including the most vulnerable. Some 55 per cent of South-South cooperation had involved infrastructure projects, including information and communications technologies, with the remaining 45 per cent focusing on the protection and support of vulnerable groups, including women, children and other marginalized segments of the population. South-South cooperation had huge benefits, not only from an economic and trade

standpoint, but also in terms of technological cooperation, the strengthening of democratic systems, the environment, social systems and humanitarian response to emergencies.

104. His delegation thus emphasized the need to strengthen the capacities of the United Nations development system for South-South cooperation, including the Office for South-South Cooperation. It was necessary to develop systems that were led by recipient countries and to evaluate South-South cooperation at the national level, in addition to supporting the voluntary nature of South-South cooperation and the fact that it in no way replaced North-South cooperation.

105. New criteria that went beyond per capita income should be adopted to determine the development levels of various countries. The classification of countries according to per capita income was insufficient to address the development challenges faced by middle-income countries, since that indicator obscured the persistent levels of poverty and the vast inequality that existed both within and among middle-income countries. The Dominican Republic supported the focus of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on targeting vulnerabilities engendered by structural gaps in development which prevented transition towards more inclusive economies and societies, and which persisted despite economic growth.

106. The Global South-South Development Expo to be held in November 2014 was an ambitious platform to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation and to advance a new global partnership for sustainable development. The efforts of the International Organization for South-South Cooperation merited special attention with regard to achieving the MDGs through the exchange of best practices and the establishing of a multidimensional platform with global reach. Those efforts helped to form strategic alliances between the private and public sectors, giving rise to specific programmes for rural development, capacity-building, investment, infrastructure, tourism, culture and technology transfer.

107. **Mr. Gumende** (Mozambique) said that his country welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. In 2012, \$23.9 billion had been earmarked as funding for operational activities for development, and additional resources would further

strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to deliver on its commitments to eradicate poverty, achieve sustained economic growth and promote equitable sustainable development. In that context, his delegation was concerned at the decline in ODA, and called on developed countries to fulfil their aid commitments, including the allocation of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for ODA.

108. The Organization supported Mozambique's development efforts through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework. The 2012-2015 Framework, which was the first programmatic instrument designed in line with the principles of the "Delivering as one" approach, sought to harness the comparative advantages of the various United Nations entities and strengthen system-wide coherence and efficiency. The Framework was helping Mozambique, inter alia, to enhance the capacities of national and local governance mechanisms, promote human rights and gender equality, improve access to health, education, water and sanitation services, empower women, encourage the involvement of civil society organizations and local entrepreneurs in policy formulation, and ensure that the country's national policies were in line with international legal instruments.

109. Cooperative initiatives among United Nations entities had contributed to holistic solutions for complex development problems, including in areas such as social protection, HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, food security and disaster risk reduction, and Mozambique was on track to achieve most MDGs by the 2015 deadline. The United Nations system had also supported the country's efforts to combat gender-based violence. Mozambique had, moreover, participated in consultations on the post-2015 development agenda, which must continue to guide Governments and the Organization as they strove to implement reform. To successfully address challenges at the country level, the expertise of the United Nations would remain crucial. Mozambique therefore looked forward to the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and commended the Organization on its capacity-building and knowledge-sharing initiatives, which would help all countries promote sustainable development.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.