

STATEMENT BY MS.VIPLove THAKUR, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, ON AGENDA ITEM 9 – DEBTE ON THE REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC & SOCIAL COUNCIL, AND INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE OUTCOMES OF THE MAJOR UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS [AGENDA ITEM 14] AT THE 66<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OCTOBER 19, 2001

**Mr. Chairman,**

Let me begin by expressing my delegations full support in making the 66th UN General Assembly a success.

I wish to thank the President of the ECOSOC for presenting the report of the Council and for his encouraging leadership.



We have just heard the important steps and actions the ECOSOC has taken on the global development agenda.

The Council has an acknowledged role as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development. It has been singularly successful in promoting an integrated and coordinated implementation of the commitments made in the major UN conferences and summits.

Through the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) and the Development Cooperation Forum, the Council has been able to review efforts to achieve the Internationally Agreed Development Goals including MDGs. The focus of the AMR each year on one of the Millennium Development Goals has, indeed, helped to accelerate action on them.

The July 2011 ECOSOC AMR based on the theme "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education" helped us track the achievement on MDG 2 and the Dakar Declaration in a holistic manner. The ECOSOC session, in general, focused on promoting greater coherence between policy and development goals, and making development partnership more effective, participatory and transparent.

We welcome the oversight role of the Council of its commissions and committees and appreciate its recent decisions to take corrective actions in maintaining the sanctity of this global body.

We deeply appreciate the high level policy dialogue the Council has been promoting with the international financial and trade institutions on current developments in the world economy. This is of particular relevance in the present uncertain global economic scenario.

There is a clear recognition that global economic governance needs a wider participation from developing countries, especially in the decision making structures of the BWIs, and we are hopeful that the Council will play a proactive role in achieving this objective.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The United Nations conferences and summits held since the 1990s have generated an unprecedented global consensus on the need to pursue sustained, inclusive and equitable growth and development.

Without sharing prosperity there can be no just and equitable world.

This imperative was emphatically reiterated at the Fourth UN Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Turkey this year. The 10 year Istanbul Programme, which though an ambitious document seeks only a minimal commitment from the global community. If we are able to give the LDCs a helping hand, they would be more than willing to run the finish line.

The global economic crisis has not borne well for the MDGs. Reverses on poverty alleviation and other development goals need accelerated action to neutralize the regression. The Least Developed Countries which are the biggest laggards on the MDGs need stepped up external support including ODA, FDI and trade.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Inter-linkages between the various UN development summits and conferences are strong, and their synergies must be tapped.

The Mauritius Strategy for Implementation would derive immense benefits from a comprehensive, ambitious and equitable outcome of the Climate Change negotiations. Similarly, the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Access and Benefit Sharing Protocol through protecting biodiversity has an important role to play in poverty eradication.

Multiple UN conferences and summits focused on attainment of Internationally Agreed Development Goals must, therefore, have a seamless, holistic and integrated working relationship with each other. The role of ECOSOC in providing this important interface cannot be over emphasized.

**Mr. Chairman,**

With just four years to go for the MDG target year, follow-up action on all UN Summits and Conference need to be pushed. The global economic uncertainties should not become an excuse for inaction on our development agenda, more so when the economic recovery itself would get a boost from addressing the development deficit.

Follow up on the Monterrey Consensus and the DOHA review Conference on Financing for Development is fundamental to ensuring resources and the required policy space for developing countries to meet their socio-economic challenges. The 0.7% ODA commitment must be met at the earliest. Equally important is the need to ensure technology transfer and capacity building to developing countries.

We need to give a renewed push to the DOHA Development round. At the upcoming UN Conference on Sustainable Development, we must ensure that the opportunity to bring back the sustainable development agenda to the center stage is fully harnessed.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Over the years, ECOSOC has played an important role in advancing a holistic and coordinated approach to global economic and social development taking into account the inter-relatedness of the different goals and targets of major UN conferences.

We must work to make ECOSOC even more meaningful than what was originally envisaged by the UN Charter and subsequently strengthened by the various UN resolutions, particularly resolution 61/16.

I thank you.

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