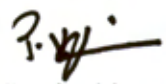


**Note to the Secretary-General
(through the Deputy Secretary General)**

Consultations with UNCTAD, ILO and WTO on the preparation of the third International
Conference on Financing for Development (24 March 2015, Geneva)

1. Please find attached a note on the above from DESA on consultations with UNCTAD, ILO and WTO on the preparation of the third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD). The note provides an account of a discussion between Under-Secretary-General Wu and the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, the Director-General of ILO and the Deputy Director-General of WTO. USG Wu used this opportunity to provide an update on the status of the negotiation process on FfD, emphasized the importance of high-level participation of Member States, and the need for concrete deliverables.
2. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD raised a number of concerns, including the possible inclusion of the Green Climate Fund within 0.7 per cent ODA/GNI targets. He also noted that UNCTAD inputs into the zero draft outcome document were yet to be reflected. The Secretary-General referred to UNCTAD's next quadrennial ministerial meeting in Lima, Peru, in March 2016, as "the first major international conference after the compacts of 2015" and an opportunity to build momentum for the implementation of the SDGs.
3. The Director-General of ILO posed the issue of momentum as a challenge for the System. He remarked that the zero draft reflects the concept of decent work well, although the issue of youth employment ought to be better reflected. The Deputy Director-General of WTO noted that WTO had "pushed for trade liberalization, aiming at mobilizing more resources for development."
4. The Directors-General of ILO and UNCTAD both confirmed that they shall attend the FfD conference.

<u>ODSG</u>	<u>DSG</u>	<u>SG</u>
For DSG's approval <input type="checkbox"/>	For SG's approval <input type="checkbox"/>	Approved <input type="checkbox"/>
For DSG's attention <input type="checkbox"/>	For SG's attention <input type="checkbox"/>	Noted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
For DSG's information <input type="checkbox"/>	For SG's information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seen <input type="checkbox"/>
For DSG's signature <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For SG's signature <input type="checkbox"/>	Signed <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Subject:</u> Note to the SG: "Consultations with UNCTAD, ILO and WTO on the preparation of the 3 rd International Conference on Financing for Development (24 March 2015, Geneva)"	<u>Date:</u> _____ <u>Comment (if applicable):</u>	<u>Date:</u> 1/4/15
<u>Date:</u> 31 March 2015 <u>Comment (if applicable):</u>		
<u>Log number:</u> 15-02671		


Paul Akiwumi
31 March 2015

DEV/10/001
15-02671

SG OFFICE
#4538 31 March

ACTION PA
COPY DSG
CAC
ASU

RECEIVED

MAR 30 2015

15-02671

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Note to the Secretary-General

Consultations with UNCTAD, ILO and WTO on the preparation of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (March 24, 2015 Geneva)

On the margin of the ECE regional consultation held in Geneva I had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Mr. Guy Ryder, Director-General of ILO and Mr. Yi Xiaozhun, Deputy Director-General of WTO. I updated them on the status of the negotiation processes for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the post-2015 development agenda. I emphasized the critical role of high level participation of Member States to the success of the FfD Conference, as well as the need for concrete deliverables. Further, I requested their personal participation in Addis in July and emphasized the importance of their engagement.

Mr. Kituyi expressed appreciation for the excellent working relations between UN DESA and UNCTAD, and highlighted their complementarities. Mr. Kituyi noted that there is a concern that the Green Climate Fund will be counted as part of the 0.7% ODA/GNI target. Further clarification on how the FfD outcome will be configured and the roadmap after Addis are needed. He expressed concern that inputs from UNCTAD to the zero draft are not well reflected. On the debt issue, he noted that UNCTAD is the focal point within UN system and expressed the view that the work of the OECD's Working Party on Debt Management is therefore not on the same level as UNCTAD. In this regard, I responded that FfD is a Member-State driven process, which is still ongoing. I noted that their concerns about the debt issue could be channeled to Member States and the two co-facilitators.

UNCTAD would like to organize a side event on the margin of the FfD Conference and formally launch its SG report for UNCTAD's next quadrennial ministerial meeting, to be held in Lima March next year. As the Lima Conference will be the first major international conference after the compacts of 2015, UNCTAD has an early opportunity to build on the momentum and strengthen the global compact in the implementation phase.

Mr. Ryder noted that a successful outcome in Addis is essential for a successful Summit in September. He said that the biggest challenge now is how to build momentum and mobilize participation in the conference. He believes the zero draft is a good foundation for negotiations and that the concept of decent work is well reflected, however the ILO would like to see the issue of youth employment better reflected. As to the role of the private sector, he noted that Labor Union should have a voice. Mr. Ryder assured me that the ILO will do its utmost to mobilize high level participation through its governing body. He noted that in the G20 context, Turkey is going to hold a joint meeting of labor and finance ministers. It will be a good opportunity for outreach to Member States. In addition, ILO would like to organize high-level side events during the Addis conference.

DESA-15/00330

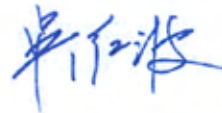
DEV/10/001

SG OFFICE

#4538 31 March

Mr. Yi welcomed my visit to WTO and was happy to meet me on behalf of the Director General, who was on mission. He commented that trade is an important part of development strategy. WTO has pushed for trade liberalization, aiming at mobilizing more resources for development. In December 2013, WTO members concluded negotiations on a Trade Facilitation Agreement. It will help create 20 million new jobs, of which 18 million will be in developing countries. WTO is proud of its monitoring mechanisms, which are effective, efficient and strong. He also mentioned that WTO is going to hold a seminar on trade financing, which will provide inputs to the FfD conference. He finally reassured me that WTO and the Director General himself are fully supportive of the FfD conference.

Both Mr. Kituyi and Mr. Ryder confirmed that they will participate in the FfD conference. I welcomed their initiatives to organize high-level side events on the margin of the conference.



WU Hongbo
26 March 2015