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REMARKS AT JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH  
H.E. MS. HELLE THORNING-SCHMIDT,  
PRIME MINISTER OF DENMARK  
Copenhagen, 22 October 2013

16:15

PM Thorning-Schmidt,

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to be back in Copenhagen.

I thank Prime Minister Thorning-Schmidt and the people and Government of Denmark for their hospitality.

I greatly value the strong and longstanding <sup>partnership</sup> between Denmark and the United Nations.

As a founding member of the Organization, Denmark plays an important and constructive role globally.

~~MDG~~

It is a leading progressive force in promoting the rule of law, the peaceful settlement of disputes and championing human rights and gender equality.

MDG 1

Denmark is also a leading actor on sustainable development and climate change.

I just had a productive meeting with Prime Minister Thorning-Schmidt.

We discussed various topics of common interest, including the urgent need for a political solution to the conflict in Syria and international support to Afghanistan beyond 2014.

On sustainable development, we discussed sustainable energy for all and promoting global green growth.

We also discussed the post-2015 development agenda and Denmark's efforts to eradicate global poverty and reduce inequality.

Denmark is an important United Nations partner.

I thanked the Prime Minister for Denmark's efforts to maintain official development assistance above the UN target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income, despite current global economic volatility.

Denmark is setting an important example for the international community.

Finally, I thanked the Prime Minister for her personal commitment to my Global Education First Initiative, which aims to promote quality education for all children.

I will now be happy to take some of questions.

Thank you.