

Helen Clark, Chair of the United Nations Development

Group and UNDP Administrator

Statement at Plenary Session of

Third International Conference on Financing for

Development,

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

3:00pm, Monday 13 July 2015,

On behalf of the UN Development Group, I thank the Government of Ethiopia for hosting this important United Nations Conference.

This Third International Conference on Financing for Development is one of four major development related UN processes occurring this year, from that on disaster risk reduction in Sendai in March, to the launch of the SDGs in September, and to climate change COP 21 in Paris where a new global climate agreement is due to be reached.

Together these add up to a once in a generation opportunity to put our world on course for inclusive and sustainable development.

But we all know that without resources, no agenda is worth the paper it is written on. That is what makes a successful outcome to this financing for development conference so vital: the Addis Ababa Action Agenda needs to point the way to realisation of all the critical development agendas agreed this year.

UNDP is privileged to have long been designated as one of five key institutional stakeholders for the financing for development process, alongside the IMF, the World Bank, UNCTAD, and the WTO. As preparations for this

The challenge is to ensure that different sources of finance complement and reinforce each other. We need ODA to have more catalytic impact, including through support for building the capacity to access a wide range of financing instruments, including climate finance.

ODA can also be catalytic in strengthening domestic resource mobilization. Capacities for inclusive growth and development need to be built, within governments at all levels and in public institutions and legal and regulatory frameworks.

Human capital has to be built too – the backbone of development is rising levels of education, skills, and health status. As we have seen so tragically with Ebola, development can go into reverse when a health system fails.

**Focus also needs to be placed on investing in the sectors
which will generate decent work, and create**

realising the vision of the SDGs to protect our planet and to leave no one behind.

UN Member States are looking to the UN development system to play a leading role in the implementation of the post-2015 agenda.

We are fit for that purpose, and we are dedicated to supporting national partners to build the capacities they need to access finance, strengthen domestic resource