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Video message Financing for Development in the Era of
COVID-19 and Beyond

Good morning Prime Minister Trudeau, Prime Minister Holness,
Secretary-

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The IMF warned back in February – before the crisis - that debt
vulnerabilities posed a threat to the accomplishment of the
SDGs.
I call on all parties taking part in this event not to let 2020 be
the year that triggered a ‘lost decade’ for development and for
building a climate resilient world.
Preventing a widespread and prolonged public debt crisis will
require creativity and commitment from the international
community.
Unity of purpose among creditors, traditional donors, emerging
creditors and private creditors is essential.
We all have a role to play.
And we need leadership from international financial institutions
to deal with the socio-economic impact of this pandemic.

The Netherlands and the European Union stand ready to take
our responsibility.
If we do not invest in strengthening the weakest link in the
chain, we will all lose.
We must set the right priorities and criteria in order to generate
long-term economic recovery.
Emergency response and recovery packages must be aligned
with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on climate change

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To conclude: The SDGs matter now more than ever.
Our focus needs to remain on vulnerable people and a
sustainable future – leaving no one behind.
The Netherlands looks forward to continuing this process
together with you all.