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EMBASSY OF ARMENIA
IN ETHIOPIA
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**Statement of the Delegation of the Republic of Armenia
Ambassador Sahak Sargsyan
at the first session of the Preparatory Committee of FfD4
July 22-26, 2024, Addis Ababa**

Honourable Co-Chairs,
Distinguished Ministers,
Mdm. Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs,
Excellences,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset let me express our appreciation to the Co-Chairs for their leadership, all organizers and the host country (Ethiopia) of the first PrepCom of the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) for their efforts to make this session a success.

In the run-up to the FfD4 it is a good opportunity to take stock of the challenges and identify gaps in policies and global frameworks for better mobilization of resources to achieve SDGs. This meeting is not only crucial to review the progress made in the implementation of our joint commitments but also symbolic as it takes place in Addis Ababa where member states and all other stakeholders gathered for FfD3 and committed to Addis Ababa Action Agenda back in 2015.

The deliberations in the Ministerial session which has just been concluded identified some actions and ideas to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs. We believe that robust and meaningful dialogue and joint actions are indispensable to deliver effective, sustainable, and equitable financing strategies, in line with the commitments outlined in the Addis Action as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda. The ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up held recently in New York, which produced Outcome Document serves as an important platform to this end.

Mr. Chairperson,

The unprecedented challenges of the past several years, ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic and armed conflicts to poverty, food insecurity, increasing debt distress, long-term menace of climate change have halted the progress in the SDG implementation globally and increased the urgency of advancing the long-term policies for financing sustainable development.

Armenia has been facing many structural challenges and difficulties in turning the promise of the SDGs into real benefits for its people. Additionally, the security environment in our region and beyond and the land blockade imposed by two neighbors create additional obstacles for Armenia in achieving SDGs and increasing resilience of the country against global challenges and shocks.

To advance bold and concerted global action to implement the 2030 Agenda in a balanced and integrated manner and achieve a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery, both domestic efforts and multilateral action, as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships that include the private sector, should be geared to supporting medium and long-term sustainable development, particularly in developing countries. We believe that the international community and the UN Development System should draw special attention to the distinct structural constraints and vulnerabilities of the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries, the small island developing states, as well as middle income countries in order to unlock their full potential and improving investment and financing sectors that are critical to accelerating the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. We stress the important role of the UN Regional Commissions in promoting the implementation of outcomes of global United Nations



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Conferences and Summits related to international development cooperation. We need to refocus on addressing the diverse needs of the countries in special situations a significant number of which are in African continent.

As a land-locked developing and middle-income country Armenia is committed to contributing to the international efforts to foster an environment, where every nation, regardless of its circumstances, can achieve sustainable development. LLDCs and MICs often face similar economic and development challenges and Armenia is willing to share its experiences with respective member states also given that almost half of LLDCs are African countries. To that end, Armenia has also identified international cooperation to address the specific needs and priorities of the aforementioned groups among the top priorities for its 2025-2027 ECOSOC membership.

Armenia advocates for a stronger international cooperation on infrastructure development, equitable and inclusive transport connectivity, trade facilitation, financing for development, effective climate financing, which are pivotal for creating a global environment, where every nation, including LLDC and MICs can achieve sustainable development through targeted and tailored solutions.

In conclusion, we hope that this PrepCom discussions will contribute to the formulation of a better global response to the needs and priorities of all, and especially the developing countries and countries in special situations by mobilizing all relevant stakeholders and available resources to build back better and leave no one behind.

I thank you!