

HEADQUARTERS | SIEGE | NEW YORK, NY 10017 TEL.: + 212 963 1234

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31 October 2024

Excellency,

I have the honour to follow up on my previous correspondence dated 7 March 2024, in which I requested your Government's support and contribution to the DESA Financing for Development Trust Fund established to support implementation and follow-up to the international financing for development related conferences.

As the Conference Secretary-General of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, I remain fully committed to ensuring the success of the Conference. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to those Governments that have already made generous contributions to the Trust Fund and I once again respectfully seek contributions to the aforementioned Trust Fund, particularly to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the Conference and preparatory sessions.

The Conference is scheduled to take place from 30 June to 3 July 2025 in Sevilla, Spain. Leading up to the Conference, there will be sessions of the Preparatory Committee, the first of which was held in Addis Ababa from 22-26 July 2024. The first session brought together nearly 800 participants, including high-level representatives from over 100 countries, as well as multilateral development banks, United Nations entities, other intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, and civil society.

Subsequent sessions of the Preparatory Committee will be held in New York in December 2024, February 2025, and April 2025, following an intersessional multi-stakeholder hearing in October 2024, also in New York. These preparatory sessions are crucial to ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive dialogue.

All Permanent Representatives of Member States to the United Nations New York General Assembly Resolution <u>78/231</u> emphasizes the importance of ensuring the inclusion of those who are furthest behind in achieving the 2030 Agenda. It urges capable countries and other potential donors to contribute generously to the Trust Fund to enable a more effective and inclusive intergovernmental process for financing development follow-up. The Preparatory Committee has further underscored the need for the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, academia, and the private sector.

Your Government's contribution will be pivotal in facilitating: i) the participation of developing countries and countries in special situations at the preparatory committee sessions and the Conference; ii) the inclusion of stakeholders from the global South; and iii) the participation of experts, academics, and think tanks to ensure the latest analysis and thinking is available to support the work of Member States.

We are deeply grateful for your continued commitment to this important initiative. With your support, the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development can serve as a landmark event that fosters meaningful progress towards our shared goals.

For details on the funding requirements and the Trust Fund to which contributions may be sent, please contact Ms. Shari Spiegel, Director, Financing for Development Office (spiegel@un.org); Ms. Mariangela Parra-Lancourt, Chief, Strategic Engagement and Policy Integration Branch (parra@un.org); and Ms. Naomi Kosaka, Programme Management Officer (naomi.kosaka@un.org).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

LI Junhua Under-Secretary-General Department of Economic and Social Affairs Secretary-General for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development