



**3rd Session of the Preparatory Committee for the
Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)**

**Ministerial Scene-setter: *"Bringing political momentum to the negotiations of the
FfD4 outcome document"***

United Nations Headquarters, New York
10 February 2025, 10:40 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Concept Note

Background

The world is facing a sustainable development crisis, with severe geopolitical challenges. There is enormous pressure on multilateral agreements, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are severely off track, growth prospects are poor, systemic risks are rising, and financing divides between developed and developing countries deepening. It is in this very challenging global context that the international community will gather at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) in Seville to deliver an SDG investment push and reform the international financial architecture through a renewed global financing framework for sustainable development.

On 17 January 2025, the co-facilitators of the FfD4 outcome document published the zero draft of the Conference's outcome. The zero draft proposes a renewed financing framework that supports a sustainable development investment push through scaled up domestic and international resource mobilization and steps to increase fiscal space, as well as actions to enhance the quality of financing and ensure alignment with sustainable development.

The zero draft also proposes measures to make the international financial architecture more inclusive and effective in an increasingly crisis-prone world. It underscores the importance of country-led financing strategies, plans and frameworks, supported by an enabling global environment and aligning international cooperation and the international financial architecture with country priorities and the SDGs.

The third session of the FfD4 Preparatory Committee (3rd PrepCom) to be held on 10 - 14 February 2025 at UN headquarters in New York will provide a platform for Member States and other stakeholders to provide detailed reactions and comments on the zero draft, thereby initiating negotiations on the FfD4 outcome document.

Objective

The Ministerial Scene-setters in the PrepCom sessions are part of continuous efforts to galvanize political commitment and ownership of FfD4 throughout its preparatory process. The Ministerial Scene-setter at the 3rd PrepCom session offers a space for ministers to reflect on the zero draft and share their priorities and suggestions towards achieving an ambitious and action-oriented outcome document. It will therefore provide the political signaling and steering needed at the start of the negotiations, setting the stage for the PrepCom session and the discussions to follow.

Format

The session will be held following the opening of the session and a brief presentation of the zero draft outcome document by the co-facilitators. Paragraph-by-paragraph comments on the zero draft will follow. The panel will comprise Ministers and/or Vice ministers, a moderator, and a chair. Senior government officials from capitals will be invited to speak as lead discussants. The panel discussion will be followed by an interactive discussion with the audience.

Guiding questions

1. Given the current global context and recent geopolitical developments, what are the emerging concerns and priorities that the FFD4 outcome document should further address?
2. What in your view could be the breakthroughs where the international community can create political momentum and to make FFD4 and its outcome document impactful?
3. What steps should be taken to enhance political-level engagement in order to craft a technically sound and ambitious yet politically feasible outcome document?