

Statement

Thank you Chair

I am honored to deliver this statement on behalf of Iceland and would like to take this opportunity to thank the co-facilitators for their impressive work on this excellent zero draft.

As progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals is off track, it is clear that financing challenges need to be addressed in order to generate the momentum needed for reform and transformative change.

We appreciate the constructive language and reference to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, that, indeed, must serve as the foundation for this outcome document. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognizes that gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but also a crucial driver of sustainable development and economic growth.

In that context, we would like to highlight the importance of having a strong reference to gender equality and women's empowerment in this section, including the need for bridging the gender financing gap.

Finally, we suggest adding a reference to demographic change as one of the challenges impacting the financing for development landscape, as shifting demographics greatly impact both national budget's expenditure and revenue sides.

Thank you.