

UK statement on III. Data, monitoring and follow up, 14 February 2025

We support the commitment to look beyond monitoring and strengthen attention on follow-up and action in this chapter.

We celebrate the progress made on data availability and use. We recognise that while critical gaps persist, the focus going forward must be on utility of data, making better use of existing data streams, and ensuring data collection integrates within national systems and priorities. These actions are key to sustainability.

We want to highlight the power of data as an enabler and an essential underlying tool to drive sustainable development outcomes for the financing for development agenda. Data is a cross-cutting priority critical to delivering development outcomes - not only for measurement and monitoring. This should be strengthened across this chapter.

In Para 63, we would like to see a greater focus on data disaggregation by sex, gender, age, geography, income, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, across the actions.

We would also like to see language which specifically recognises the role played by National Statistical Offices to provide data which informs effective policy-making.

We strongly support recognising existing data initiatives. In Para 64 b) we propose referencing the International Aid Transparency Initiative as an example of data standards helping to improve data sharing and accessibility.

We support the need for enhancing monitoring and a robust follow-up process. We are interested to engage further on this and welcome proposals from others. Any framework should build on existing indicators and should improve data utility for measurement, but also for delivery of objectives, and seek to build on existing UN initiatives such as the Power of Data and Digital Public Infrastructure.

We agree there is scope to strengthen the annual ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum to also function as a more robust follow-up mechanism.

We are strongly supportive of greater dialogue between the UN, private sector, IFIs and other suggestions in Para 65. Strengthening dialogue to better understand shared priorities and comparative advantages across these organisations will help foster a stronger, less fragmented and more collaborative multilateral and global financial system. This is vital for reaching the SDGs, and at the heart of financing for development.

Thank you to the co-facilitators for a productive dialogue this week. We look forward to further discussions.

Annex A: UK language proposals on III. Data, monitoring and follow up

Para 63: Many Member States, in particular developing countries, have not been able to fully capitalize on the power of data. Investment in data remains insufficient, resulting in gaps in the availability of high quality and disaggregated data and statistics (e.g., on gender and sex) needed to inform evidence-based decision making, especially for developing countries. This was particularly apparent during the COVID-19 crisis.

- a) We commit to accelerate progress on the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data, and invest in national data and statistical systems, including digital infrastructure. We further commit, and welcome the ambition set out in the Medellin Framework [to be adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 2025]. We will seek to increase and use data disaggregated by sex, gender, age, geography, income, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.
- b) We commit to increase financial support for data and statistical capacity building in developing countries, including national statistical offices, especially countries in special situations and those facing specific challenges, and will scale up predictable financing for sustainable development data. This includes support for the SIDS Data Hub as called for in the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS.