



REPUBLIC OF POLAND

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Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development

Interactive Discussion 1: Domestic public resources

**Statement by Mr. Pawel Radomski,
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at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland**

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Madam/ Mister Chairperson,

Distinguished Delegates,

Poland fully shares the conviction that countries are responsible for their own development and the international community is responsible for providing an enabling environment.

We therefore believe that mobilizing and leveraging domestic resources remains a crucial element of pro-development efforts.

Here we recall own experience of a struggle with external debt, which hinders not only the development but also day-to-day functioning. We remember our own path: from a debtor state to a stable and efficient country.

That path taught us how important it is for a country to build its own know-how and capacity to increase budgetary revenues and strengthen the tax systems.

Make them transparent, stable, resistant to crises and corruption, capable of absorbing aid effectively.

Strong and effective public institutions are indispensable here, to make sure that the tax revenues will be spent responsibly: on investments, healthcare and education.

In this context, we believe the Elements Paper correctly identifies the areas that can contribute to better domestic resource

mobilization, for example strengthening fiscal systems and aligning them with SDGs.

Specific initiatives within this area are critical to enhance the economic growth and, above all, to improve the living conditions of the people.

However, we also noted other proposals in the Elements Paper which run the risk of duplicating the existing efforts.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Of course, we know well that fiscal policy tools should take into account the specifics of individual countries and should be adequately flexible.

We expect that the FFD4 outcome document will cover adequately such critical issues as improving public finance management, combating corruption, tackling illicit financial flows, improving the tax systems, in particular by implementation of modern tax technologies, and counteracting tax crimes.

Thank you.