

ID3 on International development cooperation, Belgium

**Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 4th International Conference on
Financing for Development**

03-06/12/2024, New York

Thank you, Chair,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Belgium aligns with the statement on behalf of the EU and its member states.

Our **approach to international development cooperation** is grounded in the principles of mutual benefit, long-term partnerships, and a firm focus on reducing inequalities both within and between countries.

First, we reaffirm the **importance of ODA**, through the continued efforts by traditional donors, and while encouraging non-traditional donors to enhance both the quantity and quality of their support.

We believe that ODA should be utilized strategically to catalyse transformative change, focusing on building core capacities, systems and institutions in partner countries. This involves not only increasing the share of budget support but also establishing enhanced transparency frameworks that align with TOSSD and other relevant standards.

Second, in **addressing climate change**, Belgium recognizes the necessity of expanding international climate finance beyond traditional sources. We propose a two-layered approach: the first layer focuses on public funding

and private investments mobilized through government interventions, particularly focusing on LDCs and SIDS, and on adaptation. The second layer aims to catalyse broader climate investments both globally and locally, while overcoming systemic barriers, that hinder access to private capital as faced by developing countries.

Third, collectively, **multilateral development banks** have a significant role to play through their financial capacities and ability to provide knowledge policy advice and support global convening. They can play a key role in coordination efforts and in maximizing development impact.

Belgium fully supports the concept of "value for money", aiming at efficiency and effectiveness within the international financial architecture, and emphasizing results-oriented implementation and improved institutional collaboration in order to achieve impact at scale.

Fourth, Belgium is committed to **improving the architecture of international development cooperation**. We believe FFD4 presents a unique opportunity to foster and increase inclusivity, ownership, and impact. By promoting holistic country platforms that align with national development plans, we can improve the efficiency of international support while reducing fragmentation in aid channels. This includes reaffirming the key aid effectiveness principles of country ownership, systems strengthening, focus on results and mutual accountability.

Thank you.