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STATEMENT DELIVERED BY HER EXCELENCY MS. TANIA ROMUALDO AMBASSDOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT (FfD4)

(3 December 2024)

Co-Chairs, Excellences, Distinguished Delegates,

Cabo Verde aligns itself with the statements delivered by G77 and China, the African Group and AOSIS and would like to add the following remarks, in national capacity.

- 1. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Co-Chairs for their guidance and to the Secretariat for their dedicated efforts in organizing this session and preparing the elements paper as a robust foundation for our discussions.
- 2. As the world faces unprecedented complexities our collective responsibility to ensure resilient, inclusive, and sustainable development has never been more urgent.
- 3. Cabo Verde's Second Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development (PEDS-II) is a unified vision for advancing sustainable development in the country and aligning it with regional and global financial frameworks to ensure long-term resilience and progress.
- 4. There's a strong need for equity-driven international financing and structural reforms in global tax and debt management systems. Integrated Financing and diversified investment channels are vital to support economic recovery, with a focus on public-private partnerships, regional economic integration, and targeted funding for critical sectors like digital economy, blue economy, and sustainable agriculture.
- 5. PEDS II incorporates ambitious goals for climate resilience, addressing challenges through energy transition and sustainable practices in agriculture and fisheries and with detailed focus on renewable energy projects, such as Brava's (our smallest island) 100% renewable energy goal by 2025.

- 6. Mobilizing domestic and international private finance includes innovation-driven growth strategies in sectors like tourism and digital industries while leveraging strategic geographic positioning as an Atlantic hub.
- 7. On Debt Sustainability and Global Reforms Cabo Verde stresses the need of reducing public debt through fiscal reforms while advocating for international mechanisms, such as fair debt restructuring frameworks, to address vulnerabilities unique to Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- 8. Strengthened governance structures, data transparency, and monitoring mechanisms are pivotal to ensure effective resource allocation and policy implementation and to enhance accountability across financing for development efforts.
- 9. Human rights and social inclusion as core tenets of sustainable financing are crucial to eradicate extreme poverty and enhance social equity through education, healthcare, and expanded digital access, prioritizing investments in youth and gender equity.

As a global community, we must seize this opportunity to implement transformative reforms in debt sustainability, tax cooperation, and resource mobilization, ensuring no country is left behind.

In conclusion, Cabo Verde reaffirms its commitment to address pressing challenges such as climate change, economic inequalities, and systemic vulnerabilities, especially for SIDS, and stands ready to collaborate with all stakeholders in advancing a resilient, sustainable, and inclusive development agenda, leveraging FfD4 as a cornerstone for collective progress.

Thank you!