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**Second Session of the Preparatory Committee of the  
Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development  
Tuesday, 4 December 2024**

**Statement by H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva,  
Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the UN**

Excellencies,

Bulgaria aligns itself the statement delivered yesterday on behalf of the European Union. I would like to add a few remarks in my national capacity.

Let me also express my appreciation to the co-facilitators (Zambia, Norway, Nepal and Mexico) for the elements paper for the outcome document of the Conference.

The upcoming Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development is the last major opportunity before 2030 to make good on our commitment to close the SDGs financing gap.

As we engage in discussions on the priorities and expectations for the Conference that will feed into the zero draft of the Outcome Document, there are four points to bear in mind:

(1) First, we need to make sure that the zero draft is ambitious and forthcoming in addressing the key financial challenges that stand in the way of the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In our view, the elements paper has that ambition.

(2) Second, success will depend on the strong partnership and collaboration that public and private authorities are able to forge at all levels. Only by working synergistically can governments, the private sector and civil society ensure that economic development is inclusive and that it promotes good governance, human rights and gender equality.

(3) Third, we must be guided by the realisation that to achieve the desired scale and impact, traditional development assistance needs to be deployed alongside innovative financial instruments. Innovative forms of financing that blend public and private finance are key in terms of diversifying risk.

(4) Finally, digitalization should be prioritized. It can play an important role in bridging funding gaps, improving access to financial services and fostering economic growth.

Let me conclude by reaffirming Bulgaria's unwavering support for the process and the forthcoming conference. We look forward to inclusive and constructive negotiations.

Thank you.

