



**Statement by the Republic of Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States  
At the UNGA Second Committee Debate on ““Domestic resource mobilization: Where to go  
after Addis?”**

**11 November 2015**

Distinguished Chairperson,

1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States. [The Group aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.]

2. We also take this opportunity to thank you for convening this debate and welcome discussions on the role of domestic resource mobilization. As we are now tasked with the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and finding ways to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a discussion on the various financial flows to achieve them is key.

3. It is important to note that while domestic financing plays an important role for development, and that for SIDS, domestic resource mobilization is a priority it in no way can it replace or substitute the role of international public finance from developed countries.

4. SIDS face a number of vulnerabilities which directly impact their ability to mobilize domestic resources, including their small size and small populations, narrow resource base, remoteness from markets, diseconomies of scale, lack of resources and limited negotiation capacity. These realities have a direct bearing on our capacity to galvanize domestic resources.

5. Reforming the international financial and monetary systems to recognize these deficiencies is a priority, as is mobilizing them to build capacity in SIDS. Partner nations and agencies must take into account the specific needs and circumstances of SIDS in their fiscal policy formulation.

6. It is important to note here that many SIDS are highly indebted due to structural factors like the declining performance of our export sectors, reduction in tourism revenues, and

economic risks resulting from natural hazards and climate change. This makes domestic resource mobilization that much more difficult.

7. In order to overcome these challenges, we need greater international cooperation in fiscal policies. International public finance from developed countries must be catalytic in nature. It is disheartening to note that SIDS receive very little Official Development Assistance (ODA) as a share of total ODA, at just 5.7%. ODA continues to be central to our developmental financing and we urge for this support to continue and grow.

8. Mr. Chairman, for SIDS, the success of the Addis Agenda lies in the international community's strong commitment to SIDS. As we have always maintained, domestic resources are a miniscule share of the total resources required to meet our development aspirations and can only be leveraged in combination with other financing mechanisms.

I thank you.