Second drafting session on Financing for Development
Session on “Data Monitoring and Follow up”

Statement by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Thursday, 16 April 2015
New York

Co-Facilitators,

Measuring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals will require technically sound indicators, wider data availability, and enhanced statistical capacities, particularly in developing countries. For over 50 years, OECD statistics have fed the global framework for monitoring and follow-up for development co-operation commitments. We look forward to strengthening the process to monitor and review implementation of the post-2015 agenda.

First, the OECD reaffirms the importance of the systematic collection, analysis and use of gender statistics and data disaggregated by sex.

In paragraph 115, we propose a stronger emphasis on committing governments to improving the quality, regularity and independence of official statistics and to encouraging countries to embrace innovations in data collection, processes and use. It is essential to capitalise on existing initiatives and mechanisms that support statistical capacity building, such as the OECD-hosted PARIS21 partnership.

In paragraph 116, we propose making reference to the proposed framework of Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD), which would provide an international post-2015 benchmark for monitoring and measuring the broader array resource flows – international, local, public, private, concessional and non-concessional – and thereby incentivising these flows for a better future.

In paragraph 118, we welcome the effort to consolidate the monitoring building on existing systems and databases and we look forward to contributing to the UN statistical commission work. The paragraph should also emphasise the importance of gathering globally comparable revenues statistics to underpin tax policy and measurement.

In paragraph 119, we echo the call to advance measurement to encompass new areas of well-being that recognises the multidimensional nature of poverty. The paragraph could be enriched by including reference to existing initiatives such as the OECD Better Life Initiative. This platform allows to monitor and to benchmark countries’ performance, as well as contributes toward better measurement in areas such as trust, health inequalities, green growth, income, consumption, inequality measures and job quality.
In paragraph 122, we strongly welcome the call for better peer learning mechanisms and propose to capitalise on existing initiatives, including the OECD DAC Peer Review mechanisms. These mechanisms provide mutual learning and exchange of good practices and information through, inter-alia, voluntary and self-initiated peer reviews among interested states. We strongly believe that this pivotal tool would greatly benefit the implementation of the post-2015 agenda.

For a successful monitoring and follow up it will be crucial to pool our international efforts to deliver on monitoring the implementation of the Addis Ababa Accord and avoid reporting overburden by countries. The OECD can help by providing input to monitoring at the global level. We contribute to international data quality and consistency in order to ensure that indicators relevant to the SDGs are as accurate as possible and reflect real status and trends. To this end the OECD data services includes all relevant indicators and statistics, including on ODA, other cross border flows, investment and domestic revenues.

Thank you