Introductory remarks by
Rintaro Tamaki, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD

Distinguished Ministers, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to present a strategic document that represents the culmination of several years of collective work. The Strategy is a corporate endeavour that will guide the Organisation’s contribution to development for the years to come.

It was exactly one year ago in this same setting that Ministers endorsed a *Framework for an OECD Strategy on Development*, and mandated us to design a Strategy for the Organisation. We have now a “whole-of-OECD” Strategy which will able to marry effectively our core strengths – high-quality policy advice, peer learning, and longstanding experience on development and effective development co-operation.

The Strategy has entailed an intensive process involving our members and Strategic Partners as well as extensive consultations with developing countries, with the private sector and civil society, with international and regional organisations and internally with a wide range of policy communities.

I want to thank Ambassador Hur, as co-chair of the Informal Working Group, as well as the chairs of the DAC and the Development Centre Governing Board for their leadership and the important role they played in giving shape to this initiative.
It is a new world: the rationale for an OECD Strategy on Development

The context in which our Strategy is being produced is important. We are confronted with a new reality which transcends the traditional distinction between “the North” and “the South”.

Despite the protracted economic crisis and persistent pockets of poverty, we have witnessed the emergence of new growth poles, new sources of finance and knowledge, and countries graduating from aid dependency.

These trends, which are set out in our background report [C/MIN(2012)7], challenge us to take a fresh look at the drivers of growth and development; the role of governments, institutions and markets and what constitutes “good policy”.

In today’s world, there is no “one size fits all” solution to growth and development. The Strategy will enable us to be flexible and inclusive enough to allow for cross-fertilisation between different experiences and diverse development models and growth paths.

This means we will have to keep our ears open to hear the “voice” of developing countries on the basis of knowledge sharing and mutual learning. We need their feedback to adapt our tools and instruments to enhance their impact and relevance for countries at different stages of development.

Strategic actions for more effective responses to development challenges

We will do this with a focus on four mutually reinforcing elements: innovative and sustainable sources of growth; mobilisation of resources for development; governance for development; and measuring progress for development. These are key areas where we have core competence and can add value to national, regional and global efforts. Social dimensions and gender will be integrated as cross-cutting issues.

We will aim to put in practice the Strategy at three complementary levels.
First, we will strengthen and make more effective our support to our members, as well as partners, in their efforts to design policies consistent with development. We will reinforce our work on policy coherence for development, ensuring that we build a sound evidence-base on the negative and positive effects of policies on development.

Second, we will build policy solutions based on peer learning and mutual benefits. We are considering two innovative ways: developing multidimensional policy reviews and applying a “cluster” or regional approach, bringing together members and partners that share similar challenges.

And third, we will leverage our multidisciplinary expertise to contribute to international efforts in a more comprehensive way, such as the MDGs and the post-2015 Framework, the G20 development agenda, and the Busan Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation.

In implementing the Strategy, we will reinforce our partnerships with regional and international organisations. We are not an implementing agency, and we attach high importance to building strategic alliances with members and actors present in the field to help make reform happen. We need to build on comparative advantages and complementarities, avoid duplication of efforts and address the implementation gaps for sustainability.

Ministers, ladies and gentlemen,

The Strategy is a key milestone. Our challenge ahead is to ensure an effective implementation and your support will be critical to fulfil OECD’s mission in fostering growth and development. The Strategy provides us with the basis to better equip the Organisation to support effectively national, regional and global development efforts. Especially in a rapidly changing world where better policies for better lives are in great demand.