Statement by Mr. Tarik IZIRAREN  
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UNDP Segment 
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Mr. President,

Allow me first of all to congratulate you for your election as President of the UNDP/UNFPA and UNOPS Bureau for 2013 as well as the other Members of Bureau and to assure you of the full cooperation of the Moroccan delegation.

I would also like to express the appreciation of my delegation to Mme Helen Clark, Administrator of UNDP, for her leadership and for all her endeavors and commitment to improve the effectiveness and the performance of the organization.

I take this opportunity to express my deep thanks to the African countries for their trust and support during my tenure as Vice-president of the Executive Board.

Mr. President,

As we are engaged in the process of preparing the UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017, the international context is witnessing major changes along with the increased development challenges, which require a coherent response to the development needs of programme countries.

In this regard, I would like to highlight that the QCPR resolution stated clearly that national ownership and leadership and the alignment to national development priorities and policies of programme countries are crucial guiding principles in any development-related activity and underscored also that there is no "one size fits all" approach for development.

The UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017 should be then an occasion to express the ambition to better serve the development objectives and needs of developing countries manner in an ever changing intentional context and the multiplication of development challenges, taking into account the orientations provided by the QCPR resolution, the lessons learned from the implementation of the current Strategic Plan and the MDGs.

Mr. President,

With only two years until the 2015 deadline, many developing countries, especially in Africa, are far from achieving the MDGs, in an international context characterized by the persistence of uncertainties about the recovery of the global economy as direct consequence of the financial and economic crisis and the increasing effects of climate change and other development challenges. Accelerating progress toward the attainment of the MDGs should then remain within the focus areas of the work of UNDP.
Enhancing the capacity of resilience of programme countries to external and internal shocks as well as capacity building should also continue to be among the priorities of UNDP.

If a lot of progress has been recorded with regard to the achievement of development goals, Inequality remains one of the major challenges to be overcome in the years to come.

Furthermore, the challenge of youth unemployment is also a pressing challenge in developing countries. Providing better education and training to youth, the improvement of the infrastructure, the promotion of productive investments and improved market access are essential elements to achieve inclusive and sustained economic growth.

Mr. President,

The imbalance between the core and non-core resources of the Organization continues to be a matter of concern and leads to the fragmentation of the operational activities for development in a time when the challenges for development are increasing and require a coherent response from the United Nations Development System.

I would like to stress that the implementation of the principle of full cost recovery, proportionally, from core and non-core resources, should allow better use of funding resources for programming.

I would also like to emphasize the importance of the predictability and availability of regular resources and look forward to a decision on the critical mass of core funding that will be an important step toward enabling the UNDP and other agencies to fulfill their mandate and to achieve better results for development.

Mr. President,

South/South cooperation, as complement to North-South cooperation, contributes to the economic growth and the development of the countries of the South. The major contribution of SSC lies in the role it plays in the exchange of lessons learned, experiences and best practices between developing countries.

In this regard, I would like to highlights the importance of the regional dimension of South-South cooperation as well as the triangular cooperation as an effective and efficient modalities of cooperation for development and the need for mainstreaming and supporting this kind of cooperation by the UN System.

In concluding, I would like to reiterate the importance given by my delegation to the adaptation efforts of the UNDP to respond to the evolving challenges for development as well as to the availability of sufficient and predictable regular resources to fulfill its mandate.