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REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

STATEMENT

BY

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BEFORE THE SECOND COMMITTEE (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL)

UNDER AGENDA ITEM 24: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 14, 2013
Mr. Chairman,

Since I am taking the floor for the first time, allow me to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of the Second Committee, and through you the members of the Bureau. We are confident that under your able leadership our deliberations will bear fruitful results. I assure you the full cooperation of the Mozambican delegation.

Mozambique associates itself with the statements made by the distinguished representative of Fiji, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the distinguished representatives of Benin and Ethiopia, on behalf of the Least Developed Countries and the African Group, respectively.

Mr. Chairman,

We welcome the analysis on the funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2011 and on the status of the South-South Cooperation, contained in the reports of the Secretary-General under consideration in the agenda item 24.

Both reports address important dynamics of the support that developing countries need to address the prevailing development challenges. First, the unquestionable role of the UN at country level, and second the increasing role played by partnerships among developing countries.

Therefore, it is with a mixed feeling that we note that while the levels of core financial resources have remained the same in 2010 and 2011, 67% of these resources have been channeled to long term related development programs, allowing the UN operational activities to be more aligned with national development priorities and more effective in delivering results.

The effectiveness of the UN at country level depends very much on the quality and predictability of the core funds available for its work. Thus, we would like to stress the need for a greater commitment to increasing the contributions to the United Nations agencies, funds and programs.

The report on funding of operational activities contains important recommendations that will certainly contribute to strengthen the United
Nations by enhancing its coherence and efficiency to address the development challenges. To this end, the resolution 67/226 (Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system), represents a relevant tool in seeking new and innovative solutions to development challenges at country level.

Mr. Chairman,

As one of the pilot countries of the Delivering as One Initiative, Mozambique welcomes the results achieved during the first phase of this new approach to working together within the UN family and between the UN and the Government of Mozambique.

Since the inception of the DaO Initiative in Mozambique, in 2007, one area of focus has been the One UN pooled fund, established to finance the UNDAF in a more integrated and efficient way, with the support of relevant development partners. The pooled funding approach provided a positive incentive for agencies to collaborate and to improve performance, and a transaction reduced instrument for government and donors.

As a result, the UN is more coherent, harmonized and aligned with the National Poverty Reduction Action Plan (PARP) with impacts in areas such as:

- Governance
- Social protection
- HIV and AIDS
- Food security and nutrition and
- Disaster risk reduction

In a time of pressure on development finance worldwide, it is even more important to sustain the quality and pooling of the funding.

Mr. Chairman,

South-South Cooperation plays an increasing role in complementing the North-South Cooperation particularly in areas of science and technology,
trade and foreign direct investment with impact on economic growth and the achievement of the MDGs.

In Mozambique, South-South Cooperation in particular Triangular Cooperation is contributing to increase productivity in agriculture and reinforce national capacities in disaster risk management.

Therefore, Mozambique welcome the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary General on the state of South-South cooperation and stress the role that the United Nations can play in promoting South-South Cooperation as well as Triangular Cooperation as a complement to other formulas of partnership.

The General Debate of the General Assembly and the 6th High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development stressed the need to match the financial resources and partnerships to our development ambitions.

In this regard and taking into consideration the role of the UN operational activities in fulfilling our development goals, predictable and pooled funding is critical for the continued success and sustainability of DaO reform. We hope that member States will remain engaged by providing adequate predictable financial resources.

Mr. Chairman,

Let me conclude by emphasizing that Mozambique recognizes the UN operational activities for development as a valid and relevant part of our response to our national development needs and commitment to advance the potential of South-South Cooperation.

I thank you!