

Revised!!

**Sri Lanka Statement to APFSD 2017**

**Session 2 (a) & 3(a) on Strengthening the delivery of the means of implementation**

**By Mr Uchita de Zoysa, Chief Negotiator for Sri Lanka & Advisor to Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife Sri Lanka**

Thank you Chair,

This statement will be combining our response to sessions 2(a) on national progress & 3(a) on the means of implementation;

1. Sri Lanka opted not to be one of the 44 countries reporting to HLPF this year, 2017.
2. We, through the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife, as the national focal point, had launched an ambitious programme themed "Planning for an Inclusive Transformation in Sri Lanka" in early 2016 and we are now on track for the full implementation of the 17 SDGs and the monitoring, review, follow-up and reporting process. Therefore, we believe that in 2018 we would be ready to present our review on progress towards a true transformation.
3. We believe that new policy, regulatory, institutional and financing architecture is critical towards addressing the systemic problems challenging the transformation.
4. As we reported yesterday, Sri Lanka as a nation has embarked on a Sustainable Era through a Presidential proclamation and a Sustainable Development Act that was presented to parliament last month to support the implementation of the SDGs.
5. We have also mapped the institutional responsibilities against all 169 targets against 51 ministries and the 425 implementing agencies, and now mapping the policy coherences;
6. Through a cabinet decision we have invited all public-sector institutions to appoint a senior Sustainable Development Officer, linking all institutions in the monitoring, review, follow-up and reporting structure.
7. We firmly believe that a transformation to Sustainable Development requires a new financing architecture at national, regional and global levels.
8. We cannot find answers to a new transformation agenda through a financing structure that does not address the global systemic problems and disparities in the trading system.
9. In this regard, we believe that regional cooperation is vital and APFSD can provide a vital forum for member states and stakeholders towards building a new financing architecture for coherent and collective progress and prosperity.
10. Such regional cooperation would be encouraging for national financing strategies and strengthen our national budgets towards financing the sustainable development agenda.

Thank you!