



Excellencies;

Good Morning.

Funding was directed to supporting health care and social welfare systems, micro, small and medium enterprises, and the labour market.

The six policy options guiding this meeting represent the greatest challenge for Member States in realizing their financing for development objectives and therefore should be the focus of United Nations deliberations going forward.

The Bahamas notes, with appreciation, the coordinated effort of the global community to abate the debt burden of small state nations and other vulnerable economies.

The best long-term assistance that the United Nations can provide for its membership, is to serve as interlocutor and supreme advocate for its membership in fora where the majority is not represented.

I commend the United Nations, and its various agencies and entities, for the immediate action taken to assist Member States at the beginning of the crisis, through a range of measures such as the Resilience and Recovery Fund and the solidarity flights.

These UN initiatives must continue as well as the UN's outreach to the more economically resourced Member States to request their enhanced support of these activities.

Notwithstanding these noble efforts by the UN, funding and assistance of this nature remain largely unavailable to countries such as The Bahamas, because of perceived wealth that is measured by inadequate and improper tools.

The deleterious impacts of climatic events and the current pandemic on the global economy have made it abundantly clear that the outdated methodologies of assessing a country's wealth are no longer justifiable.

Priority must be given to developing a vulnerability index that will inform key policy sectors of international financial institutions, and guide development assistance.

The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals seeks to leave no one behind, and so should financing for development.

The world needs affordable development finance now, where no country is left behind.

World peace and economic stability requires stability in each and every country.

On a matter of great