

Mr. Co-Facilitators, many thanks for the opportunity to address the session. While working for the Society for International Development, I am speaking here in expression of the large group of civil society organizations and networks that actively engages in the FfD process.

I would like to start by expressing strong reservations on the capacity of the Zero Draft to offer a sound basis to advance the agenda for sustainable development and heighten the level of the existing commitments on financing for development. It is imperative that that the third FfD outcome document does not result in a retrogression from the achievements of Monterrey and Doha as well as other international agreements. Civil society conducted a thorough collective examination of the Zero Draft. Four overarching considerations spring from such an analysis.

Firstly, the need to ensure an inclusive and transparent process and retain the structure of the Monterrey and Doha outcomes. The current departure from that structure undermines the ability to hold governments accountable to their agreements therein and build further on previous commitments. We therefore call for the Monterrey and Doha framework to be re-established.

Secondly, the need to ensure a sound and accurate foundations for the negotiations. The Zero Draft fails to recognise the current reality of the net transfer of financial resources from developing countries to developed ones and the current global division of labour that traps many developing countries into commodity-dependent economies, with profound implications in terms of imp(tu)J

Lastly, the critical issue of State agency and public integrity. Rather than reaffirm the central role of the State in a context of the global partnership for development, the Zero Draft exposes an unjustified belief in the private sector, without unpacking the difference between domestic private entities and transnational multinational corporations and