

Denmark

Thank you, Chair.

Denmark obviously aligns itself with the joint donor statement earlier made by my Canadian colleague. I would just like to point to a current tendency in development cooperation that we may have to pay more attention to in the coming years.

I think of the diminishing interest in traditional aid projects and the related rising demand for investments, trade and capacity building in relevant sectors.

Capacity building is needed to turn development strategies into concrete results on the ground. In order to distil these capacities, multilateral development partners, recipients, agencies and donors must keep learning from the private sector.

It is no secret that business people often are puzzled about the bureaucratic detours made on the multilateral road. The International Trade Centre should remind us that there is no need to make it more complicated than it already is.

Denmark intends to play our part in this by our contribution to revert the trend of increasingly earmarked funding. We will encourage simple and efficient programming informed by an open exchange of views without micromanagement. And we welcome ITC's plan to respond to the evaluation's recommendation of pragmatically strengthen governance by a focus on impact.

There is no contradiction in lofty ambitions having a solid bottom line.

Thank you.