



B E L A R U S

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
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WRITTEN STATEMENT
by the delegation of Belarus

Congratulating the United Nations Development Programme with its 50th anniversary Belarus would like to highlight several most significant common achievements and prospects.

- During its 50 years, UNDP has known many success stories. While cooperation between Belarus and the Programme covers about half of this period, Belarus has enjoyed genuine benefits of this fruitful partnership. Thanks to joint efforts of the Government and UNDP numerous development achievements have been sustained. UNDP's assistance has helped to substantially advance national human development. The most recent Human Development Report puts Belarus at the 50th position, in the high human development category. The country's development record clearly pinpoints the instrumental role of UNDP-led international cooperation as a crucial tool in support of national efforts.
- Belarus acknowledges with deep appreciation the role of the UNDP and its Administrator as UN coordinator of international Chernobyl cooperation. The global community led by the United Nations has been involved in overcoming the Chernobyl disaster for almost three decades and has gained unique knowledge and experience, including best practices in moving from recovery to development. The 30th anniversary of the disaster at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power to be commemorated on April 26, 2016 will serve as a reminder of one of the most crucial lessons of Chernobyl: the world should stay vigilant and united facing such disasters. Belarus believes that further concerted international efforts with UNDP's involvement are needed building on the previous years of Chernobyl cooperation and multilateral partnerships.
- In recent years, all regions of the world have witnessed the acceleration of the economic integration processes which have become an important factor for sustainable development. Belarus believes that the idea of integration of integrations as a significant trend of the contemporary world could serve as a unifying effort to help forge a new formula of universal mutually beneficial cooperation. As a part of the overall forward-looking strategy, UNDP and the UN development system in general should pay more attention to cooperation with regional integration organisations as well as to facilitating dialogue between such integration entities.
- Assisting countries on their path to sustainable development under the difficult global financial and economic conditions is a key task for the UNDP. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires UNDP's strong leadership and comprehensive approach. Eradication of poverty as key objective of the 2030 Agenda will be a futile effort unless the poverty situation and other development challenges in middle-income countries are properly addressed by the UN system. Today this is the only significant category of countries (more than 100 countries with more than half of the planet's population) that does not have a UN system-wide coordinated mechanism for development cooperation. At this point when the middle-income countries' challenges are reflected both in the 2030 Agenda and in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, necessary arrangements should be made to adopt a coordinated approach by the UN in their respect. Belarus encourages UNDP to promote the adoption of such approach, for example, through a comprehensive action plan on development cooperation and assistance to this category of countries.