

Forum: General Assembly 2 (Economic and Financial)

Issue: Measures to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda

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Description of the Issue

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) was adopted by The United Nations Third International Conference that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The four-day general meeting consisted of eight plenary sessions and 200 other events where a total of 7000 representatives including UN member nations (developed and developing nations), bilateral and multilateral organizations, development financial institutions, and civil society representatives attended and discussed various topics. AAAA provides the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), by reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (2002) and the Doha Declaration (2008), with more other development measures, that included sources from finance, technology, science, trade and innovation. The United States has agreed to launch a “technology facilitation mechanism” which will consist of task force, a multi-stakeholder cooperation form and an online platform to promote innovation and capacity building on technology. There are new social protection systems like nations spending on essential services like health and education. As some developing nations could not afford the key services for the citizens the agreement was made between the countries so that the international community will provide any international assistance to fund the domestic resources. Another new agreement was to set up a Global Infrastructure Forum to coordinate and integrate infrastructure-related initiatives of various stakeholders. These funding to improve the infrastructure are to set up better transportation methods, provide easy clean water and hygiene conditions but most importantly have better agriculture and nutrition. As food insecurity in urban areas are such a great problem in countries whether they are developed or developing nations, there is such a huge gap between the living conditions of people who live in downtown areas and the outskirts of

the city (usually slum areas). In addition, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) forum on development financing to discuss the follow-up and implementation of the AAAA will be formed. This agreement is a great challenge to Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs), Landlocked Least Developed Countries and Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), however, the outcomes of the AAAA is all applicable and practical to these states and countries as well.

Monterrey Consensus

The Monterrey Consensus was one of the United Nations International Conference on Financing for development conferences held in Monterrey, Mexico 2002. This outcome is described to be a turning point in approaching development cooperation by the international community. This meeting was the first time The United Nations got involved by sponsoring and talk about maintaining and implementing global development.

The main outcomes from this conference were:

1. “Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development.” This act was set up so that the domestic resources are used more often which would increase productivity, encouraging more private sectors (that will contribute more to the development of the country), and also effectively use international investments if needed. For this act to be successful a government must be stable and be able to fight against corruption as it is a barrier to diversify domestic resources and eradicate poverty. For example, by addition of tax on tobaccos will help reduce tobacco consumption; however, since tobacco is very addictive and cannot be stopped straight away, there might be people using more money on health care systems, meaning that public spending increases to ensure universal public healthcare services. The domestic resources are used more widely and will be assisted by the international organizations that will give full support for any domestic actions.
2. “Mobilizing international resources for development: foreign direct investment and other private flows.” For a sustained economic growth to happen over a long period of time, foreign investments in different sectors of the economy will help boost productivity, create jobs for people, and enhance competitiveness between entrepreneurs. If the

country wants to keep up with their stable economic growth in order to attract international communities, they will continue to put in best efforts to receive investments. Therefore, this will allow the small enterprises and infrastructures to develop quickly.

3. “International trade as an engine for development.” Since a multilateral trading system stimulate the development of the world by benefiting nations at any stage of their development. This action was set to ensure that trade will promote growth and employment. The World Trade Organization (WTO) has agreed to help developing nations to implement trade systems in order to increase trade and foreign investments to boost economic growth and also protect public health and implement access for medicines in developing countries.
4. “Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development.” In countries with least capacity, Official development assistance (ODA) helps to reach a pretty high level of domestic resources and also human capital and export capacities to be implemented. In order for the countries to achieve goals like the Millennium Declaration (MDGs), an increase in ODA is needed. Therefore, this act claims to keep on developing ODA that will further improve on the development of the economy.
5. “External Debt.” This is very important in mobilizing resources for public/ private investments. In order for the act to be carried out a help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank is needed so that any adjustments that are caused by any factors are equalized.
6. “Addressing systemic issues: enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development.” One of the goals for this act is to improve financing and also eradicate poverty.

Doha Declaration

This conference is a follow-up conference from the Monterrey Consensus (2002) that was held in Doha, Qatar in 2008. Basically, this conference was to solve the vague objectives that were agreed on the first conference of financing and development. The objectives were all modified that could be more practical and be solidified with concrete commitments. The goals that were

stated in the report on the first conference and this conference are similar to each other.

The Addis Ababa Action plan offers more specific monitoring measures compared to the Monterrey consensus and emphasizes the transparency in data. The AAAA allows various mechanisms for follow-up review, and the ECOSOC will monitor the agenda yearly. The Secretary-General has organized a Task Force to analyse the progress of the Post-2015 development and within the next 4 years, there would be another conference to implement this agenda.

Addis Ababa Action Summary:

Actions:	Description:
Provision of social protection and public services	Governments will start to nationally set spending investments on public services. For social protection, there would be social protection floors to provide a protection system.
Bridging the gap in infrastructure	In developing countries, there is a need to improve the basic infrastructure systems that would increase the capacity gaps. There would be no left out nation so that all commitments are respected.
LDC package	This package is mainly created for the poor countries. Therefore this agenda aims to increase the ODA to the poorest regions to 0.2% of the income. Countries have already agreed upon the investment to the LEDCs to provide support.
Inclusion of women’s empowerment into financing	Even though, the actual statistics of women and gender equality reduced, still women are not represented in governments and have

	<p>significantly low pay and be violent towards women. This agenda will promote the importance of women towards economic growth and equalize gender.</p>
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Definition of Key Terms

Official development assistance (ODA)

ODA is the measure of aid and assessments of aid performance that includes 3 elements: undertaken by the official sector, promotion of economic development and welfare as the main objective and have concessional financial terms.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The Millennium Development Goals are set up by the United Nations to achieve until 2015; where the goals range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda is another document with sets of goal that would contain solidified methods to achieve the MDGs.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals are an intergovernmental set of aspiration goals with 17 goals and 169 targets. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda is mainly formed due to help the development of the SDGs and also implement more on how to achieve these goals. It sets out a financing framework to make sure these goals are accomplished by the end of 2030.

The World Trade Organization (WTO)

It is an organisation that deals with international trade. Since one of outcomes of the AAAA is obtaining international trade as an engine for development, the organization is in negotiation with other organizations on the Doha Declaration; there has been increasing trade agreements between the governments and are now functioning for the agricultural trade between

the developed countries and developing countries.

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

It is an organization that works for global monetary cooperation, securing the stability of financial issues, and help international trade. It also contributes in the development of the economy and also reducing poverty by loans to governments who suffer under the economy the greatest.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

An organization whose goal is eradicating hunger, achieving food security for everyone in the world, and eliminating rural poverty

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

A specialized agency of the United Nations that was established in 1977 after the world food conference in 1974 to combat rural hunger and poverty in developing countries through low-interest loans and direct assistance. Also, they give financial aids to agricultural development projects for food production in developing countries.

Positions of Key Member Nations and Other Bodies on the Issue

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

The UNDP is greatly involved due to the SDGs that first came out in January 2016. The UNDP has a role to help improve the goals by meetings and conferences with almost 170 countries.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB)

The World Bank and the IMF, the African Development Bank (AFDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) EIB and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) announced a joint statement on "from billions to trillions" last April, held a subsidiary event .It has been discussed how to effectively utilize various private and public resources to make the necessary investments. Therefore, starting from

this development fund meeting, Republic of Korea will also utilize various financial resources to improve effectiveness and efficiency. IMF and WB will continue to be involved in economic transitions in developing countries, and help to strengthen policies to countries that need development. In 2016, April the managing director has said that the IMF will keep on providing assistance on subsidy removal strategies, and carbon taxation.

The World Trade Organization (WTO)

The WTO is greatly involved in the SDGs and the AAA especially in the trade sector. They have tried lots of ways to contribute to the multilateral trading system especially for the development of LEDCs. The WTO states that they determined lots of ways to develop the LEDCs with fisheries, agriculture, giving access to medicines and also implementing the WTO outcomes in the Nairobi conference. The Director-General has said that governments must do more work to make sure that trade can support the efforts to its maximum level.

Timeline of Key Events

Date	Description of Event
22 March 2002	Monterrey Consensus
28 November 2008	The Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus
2015	Millennium Development Goal end
September 2015	Addis Ababa Agenda
January 2016	Sustainable Development goals

Possible Solutions

Since this agenda has been only adopted in 2015, there has been almost no evaluation to solve the issue. However, there are ways that this agenda can be implemented. The next meeting on this united nations third international conference is in 2019 which is 3 years after. Although the ECOSOC writes report every year a meeting every year will greatly improve and enhance global

sustainable economic growth. By having conferences every year and improving on the situation at that time of the year, there could be a faster response to the goals. Another possible solution to implement this action is to strengthen the finance for sustainable development in the LEDCS as some of the aims are too difficult for the less developing countries to develop. The speakers of some countries in April 2016, have mentioned that the provision of services, infrastructure and public goods are really beneficial to citizens, but there are some financial problems within the government to fulfill the wants from the population. Thirdly, people in public-private partnerships will help to develop SDGs goals as it considers under which conditions different types of partnerships could be aligned . In addition, public-private partnerships (PPPs) could become a win-win mechanism for, first and foremost citizens including socially vulnerable groups, governments, and the private sector.

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