



## **European Union**

### **Statement**

**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**

**67<sup>th</sup> Session of the Trade and Development Board**

**Part 3**

**28 September – 2 October 2020**

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**Agenda Item 3**

**Actions carried out and/or planned by UNCTAD to support member States in  
the recovery of trade and industries after overcoming the pandemic**

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**Statement by the European Union Delegation to the UN and other  
international organisations in Geneva**

**Geneva, 30 September 2020**

**- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -**

Mr President, Deputy Secretary General, Excellencies, distinguished Delegates,

In conclusion of the debate on this item 3, I would like to reiterate how the **COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of the 2030 Agenda and of the Paris Agreement**. In particular when it comes to the most vulnerable. In this sense, let me repeat the calls of the recently adopted COVID-19 Omnibus Resolution by the General Assembly, which calls for special support in the areas of aid, capacity building, and aid for trade.

**The European Union and its Member States, as well as European financial institutions, stepped up our efforts to help combat the impacts of COVID-19 in our partner countries.** The joint financial package so far reaches almost €36 billion, with a significant focus on the most vulnerable. The supported actions aim at generating sustainable investment and green jobs, as well as at protecting livelihoods.

Furthermore **we launched a Vaccines Initiative**, which included a Pledging Conference, **and engaged in relevant multilateral initiatives**, such as on debt relief. In the context of “Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and beyond”, we co-lead the work on “Recovering better for sustainability”, which means that the post-COVID-19 world has to be greener, more inclusive, more just and more gender-equal.

Beyond being the largest ODA donor, **we help partner countries unlock the full potential of all financial resources**, domestic and external. Integrated National Financing Frameworks, which many developing countries are already applying, are important instruments in this respect, which we strongly support.

Even before COVID-19, the world was arguably **not fully on track for reaching the SDGs by 2030**. Nevertheless, we have seen significant and unprecedented reduction in poverty, which also led to the graduation of a number of LDCs. We all must now focus our efforts to make up for the lost ground, and remain ambitious and determined on implementing the 2030 Agenda.

In conclusion, let me reiterate our **commitment to rebuild back better and greener**. And call on UNCTAD to join our common efforts through a focused and prioritised action.

Thank you.