

## **Item 2 Midterm Review of the Nairobi Maafikiano**

### **JUSCANZ Statement (Draft)**

Mr. President,

Secretary General,

Excellencies

Distinguished Delegates,

It is my honour to speak on behalf of the JUSCANZ group.

Thank you, Dr. Kituyi, for presenting the overview of the Midterm review report. I

would also like to thank the Secretariat for preparing the document.

I would like to share the following reflections by JUSCANZ on the Midterm review.

First, regarding the preparation of the report, we regret that although the format was discussed with members during extended bureau meetings, during which some groups, including JUSCANZ, offered creative ideas, those ideas do not

appear to have been reflected. We see this as a missed opportunity to offer an innovative format to support the discussion we are having today.

Second, regarding the content;

We welcome the efforts to move from a division-based management approach to a horizontal, task-based approach. We look forward to the work of the cross-divisional working groups on several topics, such as statistics coordination and gender.

We are also glad to hear about the implementation of results-based management in all technical cooperation activities and the efforts made in mainstreaming gender equality. We hope that this continues.

While noting these efforts and positive results, it is as important to think about what could have been done better in this exercise.

The document mainly lists the activities carried out in the last two years, which is

useful in order to acknowledge what has been accomplished. However, in addition to that, we expected the document to mention more the challenges UNCTAD is facing in implementation and to indicate what it would do to improve over the next two years. Having more of these elements would help demonstrate the extent to which UNCTAD is holding itself accountable, but because of this insufficiency, the report reads as more celebratory than an honest appraisal of progress.

In our view, for example, the findings of the evaluations of two sub-programmes, which identified areas for improvement in order to deliver better outcomes in alignment with UNCTAD's mandate, could have been reflected more in the review. Following these evaluations, UNCTAD's management agreed to undertake an internal UNCTAD wide evaluation of the work plan and related human and financial resources. UNCTAD also agreed that specific sub-programmes would make sustainability considerations an integral part of their interventions, such as thematic continuity in research, programmatic continuity in technical cooperation, and better follow-up and synergies in research and technical cooperation. JUSCANZ appreciates these agreements

by UNCTAD and therefore, thinks that this could have been mentioned in the Midterm review.

Finally, JUSCANZ remains committed to cooperating with you and the Secretariat to successfully implement the Maafikiano and to start preparation towards UNCTAD XV.

Thank you.