Statement by
H.E. Mr. Masud Bin Momen, Ambassador and Permanent Representative,
Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations at the
Second Regular Session 2016 of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
UNDP Segment
New York, 08 September, 2016.

Thank you Mr. President
On behalf of Bangladesh delegation, I congratulate you, Mr. President, on your
efficient stewardship of the Board. I express our sincere thanks to the UNDP Administrator
Madame Helen Clark for her outstanding leadership and also for her comprehensive statement
this morning. Her statement has provided a detailed overview of the efforts made by UNDP
in facing various development challenges and crisis in several regions.

At the outset, let me align with the statement made by the Chair of the G77 & China.

Mr. President,
Last year we adopted a transformative development plan in the form of the 2030
Agenda for Sustainable Development. We committed ourselves to embolden our efforts to
collectively face the challenges in eradicating poverty, hunger, illiteracy and diseases from
this world and bring meaningful changes in the lives of the people. Attaining these goals and
reaching the targets would require us forging strong partnership and collaboration among the
stakeholders. Only then we can expect substantial resource mobilization for the SDGs.

Mr. President,
The countries have now embarked upon the journey of implementing the SDGs. For
the countries in special situation, the implementation of the SDGs would be more challenging.
In this process the governments, development partners, financial institutions, private sector,
NGOs, academia, the UN agencies- all would need to discard ‘business as usual’ approach
and adopt new and innovative ways of doing business. We acknowledge the critical role
UNDP has played in our development story. The contribution of the UNDP in the capacity
building of the developing countries is remarkable. It has been facilitating cooperation
between the developed and the developing countries. In addition to its traditional role, the
UNDP may underscore the importance of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the
capacity building of and technology transfer to the developing countries. The United Nations
organizations should seriously consider mainstreaming South-South cooperation in their
development strategy. The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation should be
provided with additional fund and manpower to carry out its mandate.
Mr. President,

We are encouraged to learn that the UNDP has made significant progress in implementing its strategic plan for 2014-2017. It is also commendable that the organization is now more robust and has been maintaining a high standard in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its programmes and projects. We appreciate that it has aligned itself with the 2030 Agenda. However, more attention would be needed to better understand the link between resources invested and results. The UNDP has to adopt more transformative roles for proving its efficacy as an organization in the implementation of the SDGs.

Mr. President,

We are aware that there is a significant decrease in the contribution to the annual core resources of the UNDP. In 2015 its revenue decreased by 4 per cent, and contributions to its regular resources fell by 11 per cent. We are concerned that this trend may seriously affect the capacity of the UNDP to carry out its activities in the programme countries like Bangladesh. We need to ensure that UNDP has predictable and stable resources required for funding its programmes.

Mr. President,

Bangladesh is one of the major programme countries of UNDP. Bangladesh economy is vibrant and has been maintaining a consistent GDP growth at the rate of over 6.2% for the last 6 years. It achieved near self-sufficiency in food, and reduced poverty significantly. We acknowledge UNDP’s support towards the realization of our nationally pronounced development plan namely the Vision 2021. Bangladesh has integrated SDGs with its national development plans. We appreciate UNDP’s role in the area of UN system-wide coherence. However, more focus and coordination are indeed needed between the Government and the UNDP so that the UN funds and programs reflect the priorities of the government.

Mr. President,

As the Chair of the Least Developed Countries, Bangladesh would urge the UNDP to continue to provide support to these countries to achieve the SDGs.

I thank you, Mr. President.