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Statement by Ambassador Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN in New York at RT1: “*Strengthening the three pillars of social development: poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social inclusion,*” at WSSD2, Doha, QATAR, 4 November 2025, 3pm-6pm, Venue: Roundtable Room, QNCC (Time: 3 minutes)

Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in this important roundtable.

We also thank the Government of Qatar for the warm hospitality.

We meet at a decisive moment when the SDGs remain severely off-track, with widening inequalities between, **among** and within nations. Debt distress, climate change, digital divide, and fast-changing labour markets continue to undermine social development in our countries.

Excellencies,

In Bangladesh, we have learned it the hard way that development must go hand in hand with inclusivity and social justice. Large infrastructures may often become reason for miseries.

Our experience made us pursue a people-centered growth rooted in rural development, digital inclusion, social protection, women empowerment, and youth leadership. **Innovative financing solutions** such as microcredit and social business

– pioneered by Nobel Laureate Professor Yunus - may help millions in poverty to earn a dignified livelihood as already proved in many parts of the world.

The three pillars of social development are best achieved through sustained public resources reinforced by global solidarity and partnership. In this regard, my country Bangladesh serves as a best example of leveraging international support measures to improve all socio-economic indicators – beyond just the GDP.

Now, with our imminent graduation from the LDC category, we face the risk of abruptly losing access to **concessional financing** and **trade preferences**. Our export sectors are likely to suffer - risking millions to revert to unemployment and poverty.

Excellencies,

Our determination and hard work must be rewarded – withdrawals of support measures must be gradual; and **applied** in a phased manner.

At the same time, we strongly urge the international community to:

One: Fulfill global financing commitments and enhance FDI flow to the developing countries in employment-generating sectors.

Two: Show real political will to facilitate return of stolen assets to their countries of origin.

Three: Guarantee equitable access to technology and digital resources to bridge divides within and among countries.

Four: Ensure climate justice by fulfilling international financing and policy commitments.

Five: Protect the rights, safety and dignity of migrants regardless of their migration status.

Last but not the least: Combat racism, discrimination and social exclusion; end conflicts; and promote a culture of peace.

Let us unite our efforts to build a just, resilient, and inclusive world where every person lives with dignity and opportunity.

Thank you.