**The delegation of the Republic of Italy**

**Position Paper for The Economic and Social Council**

The topics before the Economic and Social Councilare an ever-growing number of people in need of assistance, forecast-based financing, and anticipatory financing. The Republic of Italy recognizes the need for strong international cooperation to monitor assistance for the people in need and implement access to basic human rights, and it looks forward to discussing these topics at the upcoming conference

**I. Obtaining help for people in need of assistance**

Despite the considerable efforts that the international community has made to scale up our collective action in tackling humanitarian crises, we are nowadays confronted with an ever-growing number of people in need of assistance. This is a consequence of new and enduring conflicts and violence, more and more frequent and intense extreme weather events, further exacerbated by the primary and secondary consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic. This dire global humanitarian scenario, coupled with increasingly shrunk humanitarian access and overstretched financial recourses, calls for a collective enhanced effort by the international community to further improve the efficiency and effectiveness of aid, also through the increasing involvement and empowerment of local actors.

Italy considers it imperative to ensure and promote unconditional respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL), in all circumstances, in international and non-international armed conflicts, by guaranteeing that the principles set by the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols are fully implemented. Italy recommends that a more coordinated and effective effort in promoting and ensuring the enforcement of international humanitarian law - especially of those provisions aimed at protecting civilians and civilian infrastructures - is strongly needed to mitigate the consequences of armed operations on the suffering of the affected population.

**II. Providing funds for disease outbreak**

Official Development Assistance (ODA) provided by members of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in 2021 included USD 6.3 billion spent on providing COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries, equivalent to 3.5% of total ODA. Excluding ODA for donated COVID-19 vaccines, ODA was up 0.6% in real terms from 2020.

ODA for donated COVID-19 vaccines equated to nearly 857 million doses for developing countries. Within the USD 6.3 billion total, USD 2.3 billion (1.3% of total ODA), covered donated doses left over from domestic supplies (nearly 357 million doses), USD 3.5 billion went on doses purchased specifically for developing countries, and USD 0.5 billion went on secondary costs. All but one of the DAC’s donors followed an OECD recommendation to value 2021 donations of excess COVID-19 vaccines at USD 6.72 per dose and to make any necessary adjustments if they paid less to ensure no overstating of ODA.

Italy’s ODA increased by 35% from US$4.2 billion in 2020 to US$5.7 billion in 2021, largely due to Italy’s global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding in 2022 is expected to equate to US$6.3 billion. In 2021, Italy organized the Global Health Summit with the EU, signaling an increased focus on global health as a development priority.