Check against delivery

Opening Statement by H.E. Mr. Léo Mérorès, Permanent Representative of Haiti to the United Nations and President of the Economic and Social Council

Global Preparatory Meeting 6 March 2008

Excellenc

for the first time, today's meeting provides a valuable opportunity to provide inputs and share the expectations of the Counc

ational Voluntary Presentations are still vivid in our minds. The evidence of the success can be seen from the fact that this year we have eight countries volunteering, including four developed countries. Moreover, we already have several volunteers for next year. Yes, there is enthusiasm and it was indeed refreshing to hear the real experience of countries in implem

Without adequate follow-up mechanisms including effective monitoring and evaluation, we will be left with a great deal of information but the Council would be less sure of the impact at the country level. In exploring the ways of enhancing the impact, the Council can also learn from reviews pursued in other for a like the African Union and OECD. While ECOSOC reviews are totally voluntary, it can still benefit from these organizations' work in this area. I hope the first panel this morning will give us ideas in how to make the AMR, in particular NVP, a more long-term and inclusive process for the countries sharing their experiences and those who are drawing the lessons from these experiences.

The second panel of this morning will focus on the theme of this year's AMR, "sustainable development" and consider how ECOSOC can facilitate strengthening and accelerating the implementation of relevant internationally agreed development goals. "Sustainable development" and the need to integrat

The two key preparatory events that have taken place so far - the high-level symposiums