

**REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

**NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND  
DEVELOPMENT FORUM**

3 July 2018

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

**OPENING STATEMENT BY H.E. QOHIR RASULZODA  
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

**Distinguished Members of the Council,**

**Dear Participants of the National Development Forum,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I would like to emphasize that the issues we have discussed today at the National Development Council Session with the participation of the Founder of the National Peace and Unity, Leader of the Nation, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Mr Emomali Rahmon, are the main factor for our development, beneficial cooperation with the Development Partners and improvement of the population's living standards as they reflect our strategic objectives and national priorities.

As we have seen from the presentation of interim outcomes of the Midterm Development Program of the Republic of Tajikistan (2016-2020) as the first phase of implementation of the National Development Strategy (to 2030) in line with the SDGs, ensuring sustainable economic growth made it possible to reduce the poverty rate and create a favorable environment for establishment and development of the middle class.

The Founder of the National Peace and Unity, Leader of the Nation, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Mr Emomali Rahmon highlighted in his statement that our national strategic papers identify the core of Tajikistan's socio-economic policy for the long-term and midterm periods, and alongside with the Government of Tajikistan, the Development Partners and donor institutions will also contribute to their implementation.

Tajikistan continuously feels the support of and cooperation with the Development Partners and it is our firm belief that our mutually beneficial cooperation will further strengthen and expand.

At this Forum, by taking into account the interim outcomes of the National Development Strategy and the Midterm Development Program as well as the instructions provided by the Founder of the National Peace and Unity, Leader of the Nation, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Mr Emomali Rahmon today, we need to find solutions to existing challenges related to our country's development and implementation of our priorities. Conclusions and proposals by every participants will also be well noted to improve our socio-economic policy further.