



the Republic of Benin
to the United Nations

Distinguished Co-Chairs
Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of LDCs. The Group of LDCs would like to commend the distinguished Co-Chairs for holding this first substantive session. The Group commends the distinguished keynote speakers and panelists for their insightful presentations this afternoon.

Mr. Co378(G)-v 4s9T1 0 0 1 84.1Cintlemen,

unfavorable market access conditions, unmet official development assistance (ODA) commitments and inadequate foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, among others.

Mr. Co-Chairs,

We are highly encouraged that there has been broader agreement on embedding the three dimensions of sustainable development in the post-2015 development agenda in a balanced manner. The existing documents and the ongoing discussions are indicative of the possible shape of a post-2015 development agenda. It is quite clear that this will be significantly wider and broader than the MDGs. Accordingly; post-2015 development agenda will require huge additional public and private financing. Based on the priority areas of the IPoA and the outcome of the OWG-SDGs, there are at least six distinct areas where LDCs would require substantial level of development assistance and other financial flows, which are as follows:

First: Productive capacity building, including infrastructure, energy, industrialization and services sector;

Second: Agriculture and food security;

Third: social protection, including protection against hunger, malnutrition and epidemics;

Second: Though absolute number is important, the primary consideration should be the percentage figure, which is statistically more significant;

Third: Countries economic and financial capacity to deal with the challenges by their own resources;

Fourth: The trends in the reduction of poverty and other goals and targets over the years; and

Finally: countries initial endowments and characteristics in terms of resources, institutions and pervasive challenges.

In these areas, LDCs are, no doubt, at the highest of the ladder in terms of challenges and at the bottom of it in terms of the capacity. Therefore, LDCs would need additional, preferential, concessional and most favorable treatment for their access to markets, finance, technologies, know-how and other resources and differential and flexible treatment in undertaking international commitments and obligations which is called "Differential and Preferential Treatment for LDCs (DPTL)". This principle should be applied in the outcome of the Third UN Conference on FFD as well as in the post-2015 development agenda.

In the upcoming sessions, the Group of LDCs would present its concrete proposals in each of the priority areas of FFD. They would include, among others, 50% share of ODA and aid for trade, full and meaningful DFOF market access, full debt cancellation, international investment support center and technology bank dedicated to LDCs, productive use of remittances, international support for domestic capital market development with a view to mobilizing international private finance flows.

These measures, if adequately applied would highly contribute to capacity and institution building support and to establishing