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Statement by Hon. Dr. Biswo Nath Poudel, Vice-Chair of National Planning Commission and the
Head of Nepali Delegation, at the High-level Asia-Pacific Regional Review Meeting on the IPoA in
preparation of the Fifth United Nations Conference on LDCs
Geneva, 30 August 2021

Mr. Chairman,
Honorable Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates,

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Mr. Chairman,

9. As we are preparing for the LDC5, I would like to highlight some of the issues, which

dese rve our special attentio n in preparation of the Conference :

10. First, the LDC5 must be a platform to garner enhanced level of support to the most

vulnerable countries that are already the furthest behind. Our focus should be on the

comprehensive asses sment of the i mplementation of IPoA, ide ntifying obstacles and

constraints encountered, as well as ac tions and initiatives nee de d to address those

ch allenges.

11. Second, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic highlight the need to take a more

integrated approach in order to increase economic diversificatio n and structural

transformation and reduce vulnerability and poverty of A sia-P acif ic LDCs.

12. The overarching goal ahead should be to eff ectivel y respond to the pandemic an d its

fallouts wh ile keeping in focus the attainment of S DGs.

13. Also, the biggest moral test before us is to ensure an equitable and universal access to

COVID-19 vaccines. Nepal calls for meaningful international cooperation to facilitate easy

access to vaccines for all.

14. Third, this should be a platform where LDCs and development partners would renew their

partnership for doing more on each of the ir part. E nh anced support must be provided from

the de velopment partners to achieve the SDGs and goals set out in LDCs’ Program of

Action.

15. Similarly, support measures must be ensured to the countries in the graduation pipeline

and to those that have recently graduated. It is even more critical for the resilient recovery

from the pandemic and for their smooth, sustainable and irreversible graduation.

16. Fourth, the pandemic amplifies debt distress in the Asia-Pacific LDCs. We welcome various

debt relief measures a nd c all for a comprehensive debt relief initiative including debt

cancellation.

17. Fifth, a full compliance of ODA commitment from our de velopment pa92 re W n BT F2 12 Tf A ET e a ure addres