



United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States  
(UN-OHRLLS)

Statement by  
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and  
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Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island  
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fore that partnerships between governments, communities, civil society and other actors need to be deepened.

Of course adaptation to climate risks is also crucial for resilience in LDCs and sustainable energy can play a key role in this respect.

As you will have noted, the zero draft is ambitious, forward looking, and focused with a simple structure.

It is a true reflection of the priorities that will ensure LDCs achieve the SDGs and beyond. I commend the Chair of LDCs and other members of the Group for their tireless efforts in presenting a comprehensive document. My Office will provide continued support to the deliberations on the new programme of action.

Here, I wish to underscore the critical importance of meeting the timelines proposed by the Co-chairs. I would recommend that intergovernmental negotiations on the outcome be concluded in New York by the end of the year.

Since the First meeting of the PrepCom in May preparations for LDCs continued to progress well.

A joint thematic event of the General Assembly and the ECOSOC was held on 18 June 2021 on “Accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda in LDCs to leave no one behind in the context of COVID-19”. Participants called for a new global deal for LDCs, built on a new generation of global partnerships that will assist

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targeted support for LDCs. Debt relief beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) was also identified as an important step towards creating needed fiscal space to respond to short-term needs and invest in long-term resilience building and structural transformation. Securing sustainable debt levels will also be needed if LDCs are to attract more private investment.

On another note, I would like to also inform you that we are on track with the preparations of the host-country agreement with Qatar.

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practitioners to solicit new thinking on the challenges and policy recommendations for LDCs, for the next decade.

The Forum is being organized in collaboration with the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNUWIDER) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN). And here let me thank the Government of Finland for generously supporting this event.

Sofar, we have received over 40 academic papers which address the structural challenges and emerging issues that LDCs face in pursuing sustainable development. They also propose policy recommendations which are designed to significantly impact the extent to which LDCs can meet the SDGs, effectively compete in the global economy and eventually move towards convergence with other more developed economies.

In addition, a Private Sector Forum will take place as part of the LDC5 conference, the objective of which is to

There will be various other stakeholders involved in the preparations and I am happy that we will hear from some of them