



**GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AD HOC OPEN ENDED WORKING GROUP  
TO FURTHER STUDY AND STRENGTHEN THE SMOOTH TRANSITION PROCESS FOR  
THE COUNTRIES GRADUATING FROM THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRY CATEGORY**

**First Substantive Meeting  
16 February 2012, Conference Room 6 (NLB)  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

**OBJECTIVES:**

The meeting will take stock of the current situation regarding LDC-specific international support measures as well as existing smooth transition measures. The meeting will identify gaps and consider LDCs' concerns related to the phase-out of those measures. There will be an open and free-flowing exchange of views on what possible approaches could be developed to address those gaps and concerns.

**TENTATIVE PROGRAMME**

Co-Chairs:

**H.E. Mr. Jan Grauls**  
Permanent Representative of Belgium

**H.E. Mr. Brian Bowler**  
Permanent Representative of Malawi

**Introductory remarks by the Co-Chairs**

**Introductory presentations**

**H.E. Mr. Charles T. Ntwaagae**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Botswana to the United Nations

**Ms. Edna Filomena Alves Barreto**, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cape Verde to the United Nations

Interactive exchange

**Thematic presentations and interactive discussions**

***Special measures for LDCs and implications of graduation in the area of trade***

**Ms. Annet Blank**, Head LDC Unit, Development Division, WTO

Interactive exchange

***Special measures for LDCs and implications of graduation in the areas of financial support and technical assistance***

**Mr. Rob Vos**, Director, Development Policy and Analysis Division, DESA

Interactive exchange

***Existing smooth transition measures***

**Mr. Taffere Tesfachew**, Director, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD

Interactive exchange