



**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**

**Third Substantive Meeting
26 March 2012, Conference Room 2 (NLB)
10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.**

OBJECTIVES:

The meeting will discuss the preparation and implementation of transition strategies for graduating and graduated countries including the consultative mechanism foreseen in resolution 59/209. The meeting will identify gaps and consider LDCs' concerns related to the process of smooth transition. There will be an open and free-flowing exchange of views on what possible approaches could be developed to further support countries in this process.

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

Keynote presentation

Prof. Patrick Guillaumont, FERDI, Université d'Auvergne, ex-member of the CDP
Interactive exchange

The experience of graduated countries

H.E. Ahmed Sareer, Charge d'Affairs of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations
Interactive exchange

The role of development and trading partners in the development and implementation of transition strategies

H.E. Ertuğrul Apakan, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations
Interactive exchange

Background documentation: Concept Note, Issues Note, CDP background paper on strengthening smooth transition -- <http://www.unohrls.org/en/ldc/916/>