



UN-OHRLLS

**United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least  
Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small  
Island Developing States**

**Statement**

by

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for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries  
and Small Island Developing States**

Statement to be delivered at the Joint Opening of the Plenary of the VII  
Astana Economic Forum and the Second World Anti-Crisis Conference

**23 May 2014**  
Palace of Independence,  
Congress Hall  
**Astana, Kazakhstan**

His Excellency, President Nursultan Nazarbayev of the Republic of Kazakhstan

His Excellency, Dato Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to express my deep appreciation to His Excellency, President Nursultan Nazarbayev, and the Government for successfully hosting the Seventh Astana Economic Forum, and the Second World Anti-Crisis Conference. I have no doubt that these important dialogues will contribute to a better understanding of the global challenges and help us seek right approaches for solutions.

Mr. President,

We greatly applaud your global leadership and visionary ideas. It is consistent with your equally singular initiatives for and commitment to disarmament and peace, and civilizational dialogue. They have greatly contributed to promote global peace and solidarity. We also appreciate your strong and consistent support for the ideals and work of the United Nations. You have emphasized that the world must find solutions collectively by all and that the global financial, trade and economic order must be made inclusive in order to strengthen resilience. These are very important issues for all of us. The United Nations has always remained steadfast in its commitments and principles to make the progress and development inclusive, forward looking, resilient and sustainable.

There are some positive signs that the global economy may finally be recovering from the worst crisis of the 21st Century. While we welcome this turn around, the structural issues remain with us. Economic difficulties in the developed countries diffused rapidly into developing countries in a globalized and an ever integrated world. And the impact was disproportionate to the developing countries. And the crises are recurrent and pervasive.

We have seen that the conference has come out with some important ideas, many of which would generate a lot of interests around the world. I have noted that it calls for a collective commitment and actions by all to overcome long-term consequences of the crisis.

Mr. President,

As we embark on our journey to shaping the Post-2015 Development Agenda, we are cognizant of the need to take into account the impacts of external shocks on the developing countries and communities. Emphasis must be given to support developing countries in their efforts to promote growth, eradicate poverty and build resilience through strong partnerships, investment and vibrant support and cooperation.

It is of utmost importance that the most vulnerable countries among them, in particular, the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States - receive an enhanced level of comprehensive support to withstand the fallout of international crises, reduce vulnerability and accelerate progress. It is also imperative from the perspective of long term peace and stability around the world.

The issues discussed here are important for all. My office is involved in the preparatory work for an Important UN Conferences that will take place this year: **The Second UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries in Vienna, Austria**; In fact, the Kazakhstan government under your leadership established a historic legacy by hosting the first ever UN conference on Land Locked developing countries in Almaty in 2003.

We at the United Nations are working for a global development agenda that leaves no one behind, promotes transformative change in an integrated manner and ensures a life of dignity and justice for all. That naturally calls for the promotion of a holistic concept of sustainable development, firmly rooted in building resilience, new global partnerships, and indeed with global institutions fit for purpose.

Therefore, many of the issues discussed here in Astana will contribute to the discussions on post 2015 development agenda in New York, and other conferences in Vienna and Apia later this year.

I thank you, Mr. President, for your strong leadership in these areas.