Speech by Minister Plenipotentiary Luigi De Chiara on behalf of Italy

Thank you Your Excellency, President Chagwa Lungu, for giving me the floor and allow me to address the High level Forum with a brief statement on behalf of my country.

Mr. President,

due to their unique geographical constraints, LLDCs are by nature confronted to major challenges when it comes to exploiting the opportunities offered by global markets. This links up to their limited integration into the world economy compared to the average of other developing countries.

Mr. President,

this is basically the reason why the Italian cooperation is actively engaged in 14 LLDCs while 6 LLDCs are listed amongst the 20 top priority countries for our international development strategy. I would like to reaffirm here my country’s long-term commitment as a partner for development of the LLDCs. It is our intent to continue allocating ODA resources taking into account poverty and development indicators as well as to keep high on our agenda the special needs of LLDCs ensuring that they will be duly addressed in the new development framework of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development.

Excellency,

Let briefly recall the ingredients my country considers relevant in the recipe it is using to support LLDCs’ development efforts and help link them with global opportunities.

First: contribute to strengthening regional integration, including through funding the expansion of the transport infrastructure.

Second: provide capacity-building to assist in the creation of an environment favourable to domestic and foreign investments.

Third: provide technical assistance in the field of trade facilitation and human capital formation and training.

I thank you.