Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

- I would like to thank the organisers for inviting me to contribute to this session on “Follow-up processes, implementation and coherence between the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action”.

- My remarks are based on my current role at UN DESA, where I support efforts to strengthen coordination, coherence and integration of the work of the ECOSOC system.

- The overarching provisions of the Vienna Programme of Action are an important complement to, and are fully aligned with the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda and Addis. In addition to these normative frameworks, numerous GA and other resolutions, such as 68/1 and 67/290, guide the work of the ECOSOC system in the follow-up to the outcome documents.

- I will focus my presentation on the preparations within ECOSOC to give effect to this follow-up responsibility.

Ladies and gentlemen,

- The report of the Secretary-General on critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level was issued recently. The report includes a number of practical recommendations to integrate the contributions of intergovernmental bodies, within and outside the United Nations, as well as other stakeholders and platforms, into the global reviews taking place at the HLPF.

- ECOSOC will support implementation by functioning as a dynamic system of functional and regional commissions, expert committees, segments and forums, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development, meeting under its auspices.

- ECOSOC will convene Member States and other stakeholders for the global follow-up and review of progress on the SDGs at high-level political forum (HLPF).
- The functional and Regional Commissions, as subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC, also are given important roles to support implementation, review and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda. This is complementary to their role in supporting the Vienna PoA.

- The FFD Forum will convene for the first time this year, in follow-up to Addis.

- One proposal in the critical milestones report is for ECOSOC to establish a forum dedicated to reviewing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for countries in special situations. This and other proposals are currently under consideration by Member States.

- ECOSOC has a track record of addressing key issues of relevance to the LLDCs, including through 10 LLDC national voluntary presentations (NVPs) as part of its Annual Ministerial Review, which concluded last year.

Excellencies,

- **Main Message:** The annual cycle of ECOSOC presents a number of opportunities to address the provisions and priorities for LLDCs. Their specific needs could be integrated into its discussions, including those of its functional commissions, various segments and expert bodies, and aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

- I would like to highlight just a few such opportunities for this year:

  - **Special Meeting on Inequality (30 March):** Given the critical importance of "leaving no one behind", the ECOSOC President will convene a one-day special meeting on Inequality, on 30 March. The Meeting will cover the multi-dimensional aspects of inequality, and policy responses at all levels to reduce inequalities within and between countries.

  - **Partnerships Forum (31 March):** ECOSOC continues to be the gateway to the UN for non-state actors, providing a unique platform for governments, civil society, and the private sector to exchange ideas and forge partnerships. On 31 March, ECOSOC will convene its annual Partnerships Forum, which will bring together a wide range of private sector and other stakeholders to discuss opportunities for leveraging partnerships for development.

  - **Integration Segment (2-4 May):** Will bring together the inputs of Member States, the ECOSOC system, and the UN development system, to focus on the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development. The meeting will discuss how policy innovation and integration can support SDG implementation.
High-level Political Forum and High-level Segment (July): This is the culmination of ECOSOC’s annual work programme cycle, and the first since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. The HLPF will begin the review of progress in implementation, and provide high-level political guidance to Member States. The rest of the HLS will host the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF), the high-level policy dialogue with the BWIs, Trade and Development Organisations, and the Thematic discussion [on the proposed theme of sustainable infrastructure]. The Segment as a whole will serve as an important moment for advancing the Council’s role in implementation, follow-up and review.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

- As ECOSOC begins it work to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the emphasis is shifting from commitments to results. By focusing on the special needs of LLDCs and the provisions of the Vienna Programme of Action, we can ensure that no one is left behind as we move forward with the new Agenda.

- I look forward to exchanging ideas about how the ECOSOC system could more effectively support LLDCs in this new context.

- Thank you.