Second Committee

Item 22 – Groups of countries in special situations (a) & (b)

Statement by Brazil

19 October 2016
(Please check against delivery)
Mr. Chairman,

The Delegation of Brazil aligns itself with the statement delivered by Thailand on behalf of the G77 and China, and with the statement by the Dominican Republic, on behalf of CELAC. Brazil would like to make the following remarks in its national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

The Brazilian Government attaches great importance to addressing the specific challenges facing Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs).

Slow and uneven recovery of the world’s economy continues to pose real challenges for the LDCs and LLDCs, which are particularly vulnerable. Overall reduced demand in advanced and developing economies alike, coupled with the end of the global commodity boom has generated setbacks for the export performance of such countries.

The setbacks suffered by the Doha Development Round and the hurdles countries still have to overcome to fully implement the Bali Package have further complicated prospects for effectively harnessing the transformative power of trade as an engine for a more inclusive and sustained economic growth.

Mr. Chairman,

The mid-term review of the Istanbul Program of Action, just recently concluded, constitutes a paramount opportunity to renew and strengthen our resolve to support the development of the LDCs, in light not only of the goals set in the Program itself, but also of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As for the LLDCs, the forward-looking Program of Action adopted in Vienna, in 2014, was also telling of our support for the group. It set a new level of commitments and a new standard of follow-up to its implementation, aimed at aligning its structure and content with the achievements of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

Both outcome documents lay down the basis for our common endeavor in ensuring the sustainable development of LDCs and LLDCs, as they take stock of the progress achieved and set out the challenges these countries must overcome in the coming years.

Mr. Chairman,

The midterm review of the Istanbul Program of Action renewed our collective impetus for achieving the goals in its eight priority areas, with a view to meeting the general goal of graduating half of all LDCs from LDC status, by 2020.

Brazil wishes to welcome, in particular, the steps taken to put into operation, by 2017, the Technology Bank, in order to deliver on this important milestone. Brazil is also
encouraged by the progress achieved towards the adoption of investment promotion regimes for LDCs, another urgent priority for those countries.

While development partners must undertake all efforts to realize their ODA commitments, as this continues to be the most critical form of financing for LDCs, South-South Cooperation is playing an increasing and complementary role in such efforts. We expect the South-South Technology Transfer Facility for LDCs will present an important contribution in this regard.

Mr. Chairman,

As for the group of LLDCs, Brazil has actively participated in the Vienna Program of Action process. We remain engaged in ensuring the full implementation of the outcome document.

Bilaterally, and through ECLAC, Brazil continues to work with its landlocked neighbors to identify and implement initiatives that will enhance their capacity to take advantage of transit facilities and arrangements, with a view to enhancing their international trade.

As in the case of Least Developed Countries, ODA flows are still the most critical and central component of international finance to LLDCs, with South-South cooperation playing a supporting, but essential, role, in particular in the case of the efforts to be made by transit developing countries.

You can count on Brazil's continued engagement with regard to issues relating to LDCs and LLDCs.

Thank you.