Statement by
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
to the United Nations
at the Second Committee
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Agenda Item 22: Group of countries in special situations
(New York, October 19, 2016)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the floor. We align ourselves with the statements delivered by the Kingdom of Thailand on behalf of the G77 and China and Lao PDR on behalf of ASEAN.

Mr. Chairman,

As we all know, effective cooperation between LLDCs and transit countries is crucial for LLDC’s participation in international and regional trade and for the development of transit transport infrastructure. At the same time, LLDCs are also very important to the transit countries as they provide transit corridors to connect transit countries with other countries in that region.

Therefore, the Vienna Program of Action (VPoA) for the LLDCs for the decade 2014-2024 emphasizes the importance of cooperation and partnerships between LLDCs and transit countries for the improvement and constant maintenance of their infrastructure connectivity and other technical and administrative arrangements to facilitate transport, customs and logistics.

The 2030 Agenda recognizes that LLDCs face specific challenges and deserve special attention. The measures to be taken should include deepened cooperation between LLDCs and transit countries, which helps improve transport infrastructure, trade and economic growth.
In the Euro-Asia region, LLDCs and their transit partners have made progress in infrastructure development and regional connectivity, bringing their trade closer to international markets. Investments have been made to build and improve roads, railways, ports and transport logistics systems. ESCAP's Asian Highway Network, Trans-Asian Railway Network, the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports, the Asian Development Bank's Central Asian Regional Cooperation (CAREC) Program and Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) are examples of the efforts to better facilitate transit cooperation and transit trade and connecting LLDCs with major Asian and European markets.

Mr. Chairman,

To further promote this cooperation, as a responsible and active transit country in the Euro-Asia region, we have an honour to inform you that Viet Nam will host a High-level Euro-Asia Regional Meeting in Ha Noi in March 2017. The Meeting will focus on issues of Improving Cooperation between LLDCs and Transit Countries on Transit, Trade Facilitation and the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This meeting will be co-organized by the Government of Viet Nam, the Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) and the International Road Transport Union (IRU), with close collaboration with UNCTAD and UNESCAP and other stakeholders.

Invitations to this high-level meeting will be sent to you in due course and we hope you will convey the information to your capital and look forward to welcome many of you in Ha Noi in March 2017.

I thank you./.