In the context of the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Mongolia is committed to implementing the goals and targets set forth in the 6 priority areas. They are reflected in our national development strategy, including Mongolia’s 2030 Sustainable Development Vision and the Government’s Action Program for 2016-2020.

Mongolia’s future is closely linked to the development of the mining sector. Thus, a key task for the Government is to put in place policies that ensure transparent wealth management, a stable macro-economic environment and a business environment that supports further development of the private sector, especially in the mining sector.

Like in many LLDCs promoting diversification through support for non-resource sectors is a central task for the Government of Mongolia. Mongolia’s mining development has resulted in an increased dependence on volatile commodity revenues. The relative weight of the mining sector in the economy needs to be reduced over the medium term through supporting development of a potentially competitive non-extractive sector. The Government of Mongolia aims to deepen and expand its engagement with the Mongolian non-extractive private sector through developing an enabling business climate and the appropriate institutional and legal frameworks. In this regard, the Government is planning to develop Industrial Mapping of Mongolia. It also has a target to formulate and implement a heavy industry development strategy. Furthermore, the Government recently launched the
national programmes such as “HEALTHY FOOD - HEALTHY MONGOLIAN”, “INDUSTRIALIZATION 21:100”, “NATIONAL PRODUCTION” and “FIRST CAMPAIGN OF MEAT AND MILK PRODUCTION” in order to ensure sustainable development of the food, agriculture and light industries. In addition to these, the Government has developed a plan to provide policy support through state and private sector partnerships and foreign investments on the establishment of historical and specialized tourism centers and complexes.

Promoting sustainable growth through broadening access to finance is crucial. As the economy receives large and increasing inflows of capital and commodity revenues, it is particularly important to develop a strong financial sector capable of channelling these inflows throughout the economy, allocating resources efficiently contributing to the growth of the private sector. The Government of Mongolia is supporting the financial sector through small and medium sized enterprises oriented financial programmes, special guarantee fund, state-backed insurance policies, equity and specific technical assistance programmes. In this regard, the Government is planning to establish the Joint investment fund based on the Law on investment fund with a private sector involvement, and create a favorable system for financing innovation projects and events.

The Government of Mongolia attaches a great importance in promoting responsible mining and strengthening governance institutions. This requires further strengthening of market and governance institutions and developing a transparent, effectively regulated mining sector and a long term framework for managing commodity revenues. The Government of Mongolia is collaborating with some international investors to offer debt and equity finance to reputable local mining companies which meet its high environmental, health, safety and corporate governance standards. To attract foreign capital, Mongolia will need to provide a stable business environment, including prudent fiscal policies and adherence to the rule of law in support of institutional building.

The role of the private sector is important in modernising infrastructure. Mongolia’s domestic and international trade expansion will rely on accelerating development of the country’s infrastructure with the private sector participation. The Government of Mongolia supports rehabilitation and development of infrastructure, including through development of renewable energy, adoption of sustainable tariffs, commercialisation and modernisation of state-owned public utilities, and structuring viable PPPs. The Comprehensive National Development Strategy, adopted in 2008, identified PPPs as a potential mechanism to mobilize the private sector’s contribution. The law on Concessions provides a strong, flexible basis for PPP project creation at the central and local government level, and across a range of PPP models and sectors. As of 2016, the government of Mongolia has a pipeline of 39 PPP projects including projects in the energy, transport, and education sectors.
In short, the private sector in Mongolia is an important stakeholder in the implementation of both Mongolia's 2030 Sustainable Development Vision and the Vienna Programme of Action, including through transparent, effective and accountable public-private partnerships.

Mr. Moderator,

Lastly, I wish to draw your attention to an issue which is important to not only my delegation, but also the entire LLDCs.

To maximize the efficiency of our coordinated efforts Mongolia established an international LLDC Think Tank in Ulaanbaatar in 2009. The ITT has been conducting home-grown research, publishing reports and handbooks and organizing various international conferences with a view to enhancing analytical capacity and visibility of LLDCs.

The research agenda of ITT has included so far reports and studies on trade facilitation, a handbook for LLDCs on multilateral trade negotiations, post-Bali institutional environment, transit transport, sea access, case studies and ICT development and disaster resilience, that have been launched at various conferences and networking events. Another important research on “Economic diversification of LLDCs: Case of Mongolia, Nepal, Bhutan and Paraguay” is being commissioned by the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund as an important South-South cooperation undertaking by the ITT.

Once fully operational, the International Think Tank will undoubtedly become an effective instrument to advance our common agenda to fully and effectively implement both the Vienna Program of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

I thank you.