

High-Level Meeting:

# Achieving Sustainable Graduation for Least Developed Countries

29-30 November 2017  
Dhaka, Bangladesh



## Programme

29 November 2017

08:00 – 09:00

### Registration

09:00 – 09:45

### Opening session:

- H.E. Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, MP, Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Bangladesh
- Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative, UN-OHRLLS
- H.E. Mr. Tofail Ahmed, MP, Hon'ble Commerce Minister of Bangladesh
- Keynote presentation on graduation:  
Ms. Susanna Wolf, Senior Programme Officer, OHRLLS

***A Master of Ceremony (MC) will conduct the Session.***

09:45 – 10:15

### Tea break

10:15 – 12:15

### Session 1: Comprehensive transition strategy for sustainable graduation

**Chair:** Mr. Mohammad Muslim Chowdhury, Secretary in Charge, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh

**Keynote speech:** Ms. Mia Seppo, UN Resident Coordinator, Bangladesh

### Speakers:

- Mr. Roland Mollerus, Chief, Secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP), DESA
- H.E. Mr. Aliioaiga Feturi Elisaia, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Samoa to the United Nations, New York
- H.E. Mr. Mikael Hemniti Winther, Ambassador, Embassy of Denmark
- Mr. Taufiqur Rahman, Head of the LDC Unit of the Development Division, World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Interactive discussion

12:15 – 14:00

### Lunch

14:00 – 16:00

**Session 2: Seizing the momentum of graduation to achieve the SDGs: prospects and challenges**

**Chair:** Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, Chief Coordinator for SDG Affairs, Bangladesh

**Keynote speech:** Professor Patrick Guillaumont, President, Ferdi, Emeritus Professor, University of Auvergne

**Speakers:**

- Mr. Oliver Paddison, Chief, Countries with Special Needs Section  
Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, ESCAP
- Prof. Mustafizur Rahman, Centre for Policy Dialogue
- Mr. Suresh Balakrishnan, Regional Technical Advisor, UN Capital Development Fund, UNCDF
- Mr. Daniel Gay, Secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP), DESA
- Interactive discussion

16:00 – 16:15

**Tea break**

16:15 – 18:15

**Session 3: Forging partnerships for sustainable graduation**

**Chair:** H.E. Mr. Masud Bin Momen, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN, New York

**Key note speech:** Ms. Anna Harvala, International Affairs Officer, Directorate-General for International cooperation and Development, European Union, DG DEVCO

**Speakers:**

- Mr. Mamadou Dia, Head of Division for Economic Planning and Policies Department, Economic Planning and Policies Department, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Plan, Senegal
- H.E. Ms. Sidsel Bleken, Ambassador, Embassy of Norway in Dhaka
- Mr. Christian Eigen-Zucchi, Program Leader, World Bank
- Mr. Gauri Pradhan, LDC Watch, International Coordinator
- Interactive discussion

19:00

**Dinner hosted by the Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh**

30 November 2017

09:00 – 10:45

#### **Session 4: Country Case Studies and support for sustainable graduation**

**Chair:** Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member (Senior Secretary), General Economics Division, Bangladesh

**Keynote speech:** Ms. Ulrika Richardson, UN Resident Coordinator, Cape Verde, UN country support to graduating countries

**Speakers:**

- Mr. Bishnu Prasad Lamsal, Member Secretary, National Planning Commission, Nepal
- Mr. Adelino Castelo David, High Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Commerce and Blue Economy, Sao Tome and Principe
- Mr. Gregoire Nimbtik, Director of the Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination, Ministry of the Prime Minister, Vanuatu
- Dr. Md. Rezaul Bashar Siddique, Deputy Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Bangladesh Case Study
- Interactive discussion

10:45 – 11:00

#### **Tea break**

11:00 – 12:30

#### **Session 5: Tools for Sustainability of Graduation**

**Chair:** Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Bangladesh

**Key Note Speech:** H.E. Mr. Riaz Hamidullah, High Commissioner of Bangladesh for Sri Lanka on free trade agreement (FTA)

**Speakers:**

- H.E. Mr. Teburoro Tito, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kiribati to the United Nations, New York
- Ms. Tshering Lhamo, Planning Officer, Gross National Happiness Commission, Bhutan
- Mr. Abdul Alim, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, OHRLLS
- Interactive discussion

12:30 – 13:30

#### **Lunch**

13:30

#### **Wrap-up and Closing Session**

**Chair:** Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary, Bangladesh

Presentation by the Rapporteur: Ms. Susanna Wolf, Senior Programme Officer, OHRLLS

**Guest of Honor:** Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative, UN-OHRLS

**Chief Guest:** H.E. Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, MP, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Government of Bangladesh