

Press Release

Norway donates more than 1 million USD to new Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries

20 December, New York - The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) today granted NOK 9 million (about USD 1,070,550) to the Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries to support the Bank as it sets up operations during 2018.

"I wish to thank Norway for this new contribution, which is very welcome and shows NORAD's strong commitment to the mandate and operations of UN-OHRLLS, as well as the trust they place in our office." Said Ms. Fekitamoela Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General and High-Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

The Technology Bank is expected to improve the use of scientific and technological solutions in the world's poorest countries and promote the integration of least developed countries into the global knowledge-based economy. The Bank will support technology-related policies and facilitate access for the world's poorest countries to appropriate technologies.

The Technology Bank directly responds to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's principle of "leaving no one behind" and will contribute towards Least Developed Countries efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2011, the Istanbul Programme of Action for the least developed countries called for the establishment of a technology bank dedicated to least developed countries. This priority was confirmed in the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development and in the 2030



Agenda for Sustainable Development, in Sustainable Development Goal target 17.8. In December 2016, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 71/251 on Establishment of the Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries.

In September 2017 at the Least Developed Country Ministerial Conference, the host country Turkey and UN signed the Host Country agreement on the Technology Bank, marking the start of the operationalization phase for the new UN institution.

For further information, please visit http://unohrlls.org/technologybank/

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