



Inaugural Meeting of the International Think Tank for landlocked developing countries, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

WHAT: The Office of the High-Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS), the Government of Mongolia and the International Think Tank for landlocked developing countries (LLDC's), are organizing an Inaugural Meeting of the International Think Tank for landlocked developing countries. The meeting will mark the historic inauguration of the International Think Tank for LLDCs and facilitate information and experience sharing through interactive discussions among government officials of LLDCs, donor countries and international experts during thematic sessions. It will include a high-level opening session, high-level press conference, and thematic discussions of priority issues for LLDCs and the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

WHO: Ministers and high-level officials from landlocked developing countries and developing partners representatives of UN system, international and regional organizations, financial institutions and private sector. Key speakers include High Representative of UN-OHRLLS, Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, H.E. Prime Minister of Mongolia (TBC); Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and other Ministers from LLDCs.

WHEN: Monday 11 – Tuesday 12 June 2018

WHERE: "Consensus hall" Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

WHY: To inaugurate the International Think Tank for LLDCs. The Think Tank will use top-quality research and advocacy to improve the ability of landlocked developing countries to build their capacities with a view to benefiting from the international, trade system, reducing poverty, raising human development and overall achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Opportunities for the press: Press conference: 11 June 2018, 11:30 - 12:00 noon and ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the inauguration of the Think Tank: 12 June 2018, 4:00 PM, UN House in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

BACKGROUND: The International Think Tank for LLDCs is a new intergovernmental body to support the world's 32 landlocked developing countries. The Think Tank was proposed by the Government of Mongolia with the support of the group of LLDCs and is located in Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar. It is established based on the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries that entered into force on 6 October 2017. The Think Tank is well positioned to generate knowledge by LLDCs for LLDCs and this will promote national ownership. The knowledge generated will help inform the formulation and monitoring of policies aimed at accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action.

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