

UNITED NATIONS



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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**MESSAGE TO INAUGURAL MEETING
OF THE INTERNATIONAL THINK TANK
FOR LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

Ulaanbaatar, 11 June 2018

I congratulate the Governments of the landlocked developing countries for the inauguration of the International Think Tank for LLDCs. I also commend the Government of Mongolia for hosting the Think Tank and for its leadership in operationalizing this important endeavour.

The establishment of the Think Tank as the first intergovernmental body dedicated to landlocked developing countries is a milestone in efforts to address their special needs.

The Think Tank aims to be a centre of excellence for research and policy advice, and to strengthen the analytical capacities of LLDCs on issues of critical importance to their development. In so doing, the Think Tank will foster informed solutions, promote national ownership, and help accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action.

The United Nations stands ready to work closely with the Think Tank and all landlocked developing countries as we strive together to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and a better future for all.

I wish you a successful meeting.