KAZAKHSTAN DELEGATION’s STATEMENT
at the 2018 HLPF side event on
“Accelerating the energy transition in LLDCs”
(12 July 2018, New York)

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,
At the outset, I would like to thank you, Your Excellency High Representative, USG Utoikamanu and your very able team, and also all co-organizers and co-sponsors for convening this very important, timely, relevant, and useful meeting, underscoring the urgency for LLDCs to accelerate progress in the energy sector, to enable the LLDCs move from the MDGs now to Agenda 2030. To demonstrate some possible measures, I would like to present the case study of Kazakhstan.

Firstly, as the largest landlocked country in the world, we had to pave the way by transcending geographical disadvantages into strides for progress. In other words, it was to transform our land-lockedness into land-linkedness, and so we introduced the Almaty Programme of Action in 2003, on the basis of which, the Vienna Platform of Action had evolved. Despite some of the richest energy resources that my country has, we realized their finiteness. Kazakhstan has taken numerous steps to transition as the world's largest landlocked country to a new vision, which we share as best practices with other LLDCs, especially in the energy sector.

Secondly, I need to apologize that I am DPR for Security Council Affairs and expert on hard security, and not the SDGs, but what we realize from our experience in the Council in recent two years, and new trends on the ground, is that we need to completely change our paradigm of prevention and addressing conflicts. We therefore promoted 3-fold strategy approach that has been prompted on the basis of recent our Security Council and its committees visits to the Lake Chad basin, the Sahel and the Horn of Africa regions, as well as Haiti and Colombia, and more recently to Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar. The configuration of the three-fold strategy is therefore the most obvious and pragmatic means to achieve the results we want. It is complimentary to the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in his reforms for the peace and security architecture (security/development nexus), development system (revamped regional approach) and improved management by UN agencies and programmes. This would increase the effectiveness of assistance provided on the ground and therefore greater transparency and accountability by UN Delivering as One). And I could not agree more with Tareq from UNIDO and Isabella from UNCTAD on crucial importance of ensuring better regional and sub-regional coordination and synergy.

Our strategy considered as a combined policy of implementing the three reforms of Secretary General António Guterres, will assist in solving problems on the ground
globally. Each of these three approaches are not new in the UN system, but in our view, a combination of them could create a **universal model to address conflicts** that can be replicated in different parts of the world afflicted by local conflicts. The present crises demand that we create new UN paradigms for preventing and addressing conflicts through this three-fold strategy. Let me elaborate on them in detail.

- **Security-development nexus (within “whole-of-pillar” approach):** It is acknowledged that there can be no sustainable development without peace and security, and that without development and poverty eradication, there will be no sustainable peace. Our aim is economization, and not politicization of the prevailing issues with their harsh realities. We believe that we need to take into consideration all drivers of conflicts, including climate change, and we applaud the recent statement of the President of Nauru in the recent Security Council debate on climate-related security issues, and which His Excellency delivered on behalf of PSIDS. We support his valuable proposal to establish new position of SRSR for climate change heading an office on this portfolio.

- **Regional (“whole-of-region”) approach:** Conflicts, terrorism, organized crime, human trafficking, climate change or promoting development are beyond the scope of any one nation. Regional organizations and their substructures play a powerful role. Hence, the second facet of the strategy is the innovative (revamped) regional approach, which goes in line with Part V of the Secretary-General’s Report on “Repositioning the UN development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: our promise for dignity” (A/72/684-E/2018/7 of 21 December 2017), and which has been well-proven. We need to create a new mechanism for the implementation of SDGs implementation not only on the local, but at the same time, the regional level too.

- **All-of-UN (“whole-of-system”) approach:** The key humanitarian crises and development programmes are beyond our capacity to respond adequately. The UN system has therefore to increasingly streamline its operations for greater effectiveness, strengthen inter-agency cooperation, as well as, with other organizations in all pillars of UN’s work. The United Nations should deliver as One-UN not only on country-specific, but also on the entire regional level in order to create synergy and strategy for promoting UN goals in wider geographic areas. This can be done through integrating country-specific and regional policies and enhancing control, transparency and accountability with a simplified monitoring system.

This combined model was approved by the Security Council in a document-S/PRST/2018/1 of 18 January, during Kazakhstan’s presidency of the Council that month. We are planning to expand it to the larger membership of the UN. We intend to table it in the future as a UNGA resolution on the three-fold strategy to be approved by the wider United Nations membership in order to have a new paradigm of the UN’s approach for preventing and addressing conflicts. With this resolution, we will provide the SG with a mandate to report on the implementation of the three-fold strategy. The UN member states will gain from the subsequent follow-up mechanism. Fine-tuning on other pressing issues, such as human rights, may be conducted additionally in due course. However, we initially proceed from the understanding that the generic model should be simple, clear, distinct, intelligible, workable and implementable, and so we tried to enunciate some major corresponding principles. We look forward for your support in this endeavour, as well as the technical guidance and expertise of the UN Secretariat.
I would also like to recall that Kazakhstan has made **nuclear, energy, water and food security** as priorities of its campaign to Security Council. Let me assure, that these commitments will continue even after our term ends this year.

**Thirdly, to ensure energy security**, the leadership of my country conceived of the **Green Bridge Partnership Programme** so that countries in the region would collaborate to meet the anticipated energy challenges. This endeavour took shape with the support of ESCAP, and the “Green Bridge” initiative was ratified by the **Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development**, as a tool to move towards a green economy, through promoting technology transfer and environmental management. This required new legal, economic and institutional conditions and infrastructure to promote a new wave of green industries which are energy clean. The Partnership Programme has been supported by major foreign investors, including the EBRD, the International Financial Corporation, the World Bank and partner governments. Furthermore, our national strategy, called Kazakhstan 2050, aims to put my state among the top 30 developed countries by mid-21\textsuperscript{st} century, when we will use renewable and alternative energy sources to create 50% of our electric capacity. Thus, as one of the world’s premier hydrocarbon energy producer, we will showcase a model “green” economy.

I would also like to utilize this unique opportunity and thank Isabella, distinguished representative of UNCTAD, for her interesting remark and valuable proposal with regard to my country and my region, and while addressing them, I would like to mention that only in near future, the energy facilities in my country will include additionally 23 wind energy plants, 17 solar power stations and 13 hydroelectric power stations, as well as several plants producing biogas. I am pleased to inform you that with the help of ESCAP we have supported bio gas projects to several LLDCs and SIDS.

**Fourthly**, we also continue our policy aimed at **waste management and reducing carbon emissions**. As part of the Kyoto Protocol, Kazakhstan has vowed to reduce carbon emissions by 15 percent by 2020, and up to 30 percent by 2050. That being said, Kazakhstan is the first CIS country to launch a cap and trade system to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

**Fifthly**, as for **water security**, we will also focus on water resource conservation, as well as agricultural management and irrigation. Our national 2050 Strategy focuses on water resource management to meet the growing demands of both the economy and population. The Plan also calls for a more productive regional dialogue on the **joint use of rivers that are shared with neighbouring countries that should be based on fairness and economic attractiveness**. This idea converges with the excellent
presentation of the previous speaker, my colleague Gebeyehu Gayito, DPR of Ethiopia, who mentioned about the valuable experiences of his esteemed country and also the overall situation in the vast region of the Horn of Africa.

Lastly, let me spell out another landmark, the international exhibition Astana EXPO 2017, which provided a unique opportunity for Kazakhstan to demonstrate the future of the energy sector for the 21st century, as well as a platform to exchange best practices, key trends and technologies from other countries. We are pleased that 115 countries and 22 international organizations took part in the Exhibition. The exhibition gave a powerful impetus to the development of "green" technologies. Many of the presented projects have been considered and some are already put into production, such as those, related to energy saving, water purification, “smart grids” and use of renewable energy. The EXPO has also supported small and medium-sized businesses to establish contacts with partners from around the world. The site of the Expo has now been converted into the International Green Technology Centre, which will be the mainspring for new enterprising developments and a global exchange hub.

To conclude, let me assure you that Kazakhstan will continue to pioneer with innovations to meet new challenges, continuously addressing unprecedented threats and drivers of insecurity. We will constantly utilize new opportunities along the way towards a new sustainable future for all, in keeping with the ethical dictum of the SDGs: “we will not go alone but rather ensure that no one is left behind”.

I thank you, Madam Moderator.