STATEMENT
DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

AGENDA ITEM 23:
OF GROUPS OF COUNTRIES

AT
THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF 73RD SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, 22 OCTOBER 2018
Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia associates with the statement by Egypt on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and by Lao People’s Democratic Republic on behalf of ASEAN.

We would also like to thank the Secretariat for the reports under this agenda item.

Mr. Chairman,

The world today is characterized with increasing interdependent nature of trade, finance and technology as well as increasingly uneven distribution of wealth and knowledge, within and among countries.

In this vein, LDCs and LLDCs face specific constraints and challenges, including poverty, low productivity, limited economic resources and market access, as well as vulnerability towards external shocks and adverse impacts of climate change.

Another major challenge for the LDCs and LLDCs is their ability to effectively participate in this global economic system in order to derive real and tangible benefits to achieve sustainable development.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia notes the progress on the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA).

Over the last 47 years, only 5 countries have graduated and 2 scheduled for graduation.

This year is indeed a historic moment. There is a total of 12 LDCs that have met the graduation thresholds, therefore putting them at various stages in the graduation process.

Nonetheless, changes are often not easy.

We must ensure countries involved will go through the graduation process smoothly and continue a progressive pathway towards sustainable development. This requires commitment of countries involved as well as strong support and cooperation by the UN and international community.
Moreover, we must continue our support and assistance for the rest of the LDCs to overcome their specific challenges. Efforts should be made to, among others, ensuring integration to the global economy, leveraging ODA for other development finance, improving mechanisms to build resilient societies and human settlement, as well as ensuring effective operationalization of the Technology Bank for the LDCs.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia has also noted the importance of the Vienna Program of Action (VPoA).

In this regard, there is a concerning trend, in which the GDP for LLDCs continued to decline, falling to 2.79 percent in 2016.

Further, LLDCs participation in international trade peaked at 1.22 per cent in 2012, but has since declined to less than 1 per cent of global merchandise trade in 2017.

It is therefore important to strengthen partnerships and collaboration to muster support and assistance to transform LLDCs to become a “land-linked” country by, among others, bridging financing gap for transportation and infrastructure as well as enhancing their capacity to participate in the global supply chain.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia is ready to work with the UN and international community to advance the LDCs and LLDCs development efforts and overcome their challenges.

We look forward to concluding this debate with action-oriented resolutions for group of countries in special situations.

I thank you.