Joint UN Workshop on Preparing for a Smooth Graduation from the LDC Category

Improved Assistance for Graduating Countries

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Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action

• Graduation process of LDCs should be coupled with an appropriate package of incentives and support measures so that the development process of the graduated country will not be jeopardized.

• Development and trading partners, including the United Nations system, should continue to support the implementation of the transition strategy and avoid any abrupt reductions in financial and technical assistance and should consider extending trade preferences to the graduated country, on a bilateral basis
GA resolutions on smooth transition

• Various resolutions call on development and trading partners to extend some ISMs for all graduated countries
• Extension of travel-related support to GA for maximum of 3 years decided in 2011
• Role of country teams to provide targeted assistance, including capacity-building in support of the formulation and implementation of the national transition strategy
• Role of OHRLLS to coordinate necessary support to aspiring-to-graduate or graduating least developed countries in the elaboration of their graduation and transition strategies
Inter-agency Task Force

- Established in 2017 by OHRLLS to coordinate support for graduating countries
- Aims to provide more useful and effective support to understand the graduation process and support the creation of a smooth transition strategy
- Need to ensure that support is available throughout the graduation process
Services offered:

• Provide information, through workshops, publications and websites on ISMs, graduation process, effects of graduation, available support etc.

• Identify agencies that can provide needed analysis and support

• Facilitate peer learning

• Advocate for support for graduating and graduated countries
Calls for graduation incentives

SG report on smooth transition measures and graduation support and LDC Ministerial Declaration call for:

- Capacity-building support to enhance access to new sources of financing,
- Bringing together various stakeholders, including the private sector to provide a platform to showcase progress and investment opportunities
- More targeted Aid for Trade support
- Enhanced technical assistance to LDCs to build and strengthen their intellectual property rights systems
SG Roadmap for Financing the 2030 Agenda

• Urges international development community to develop a package of incentives to further the development progress of graduating LDCs
• Support graduating LDCs to enhance access to new sources of financing.
• Promote financing opportunities for graduating LDCs & SIDS, given their vulnerabilities.
• Improve access to finance for graduating LDCs, and SIDS, including through debt management strategies and instruments
Fifth UN Conference on LDCs

- will take place in Doha, Qatar in 2021
- A new Programme of Action will be agreed
- This needs to include incentives for graduation and more support for graduating countries

→ Sharing of lessons learned and strong push from LDCs needed
We all need to work together to make graduation sustainable

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