PROGRAMME
AFRICA REGIONAL REVIEW
MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR THE FIFTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (UNLDC-V)

11 - 13 MARCH 2020
BINGU INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE
LILONGWE, MALAWI

WITH THE GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND THE STATE OF QATAR
PROGRAMME / 11 MARCH 2020

09:00-09:30  REGISTRATION

09:30-10:00  HIGH-LEVEL OPENING SEGMENT

Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu – UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

Ms. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

President of Malawi

United Nations Deputy-Secretary-General (tbc)

Development Partner Representative

GROUP PHOTO

10:00 - 10:30  COFFEE BREAK

10:30 – 12:00  SESSION I - FROM ISTANBUL TO DOHA

In this session, the status of implementation of the IPoA, including the remaining gaps and how they can be overcome, will be discussed. Implications of changes occurred during the IPoA decade and expectations for a new Programme of Action in support of the Least Developed Countries, will be highlighted. Participants will also reflect on new partnerships and elements that a Programme of Action should contain to address their structural constraints and support national efforts to sustainable development.

Statement by Representative of Turkey

Statement by Representative of Qatar

Setting the stage, presentations by UNECA and UNOHRLLS

Ministerial Roundtable discussion on lessons learned during the IPoA implementation period

- Interactive Discussion
PROGRAMME / 11 MARCH 2020

12:00 – 13:00
SPECIAL SESSION DEDICATED TO THE TECHNOLOGY BANK FOR LDCs

13:00 – 14:00
LUNCH OFFERED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY AND THE TECHNOLOGY BANK FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

14:00 – 15:30
SESSION II - GLOBAL TRENDS THAT WILL IMPACT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs AND AGENDA 2063

In this session, speakers will highlight challenges and opportunities that emerging issues, including demographics, urbanisation, global politics and emerging technologies, may have in relation to the achievement of the SDGs in the African LDCs. The discussion will focus on areas that will likely impact national development planning in the LDCs. The speakers will also contextualize the implications that shifts in the international arena have for the LDCs, and how these changes can be incorporated into a new Programme of Action.

Keynote speakers

- Interactive Discussion

15:30 – 16:00
COFFEE BREAK

16:00 – 17:30
SESSION III - BUILDING PEACEFUL, JUST AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

In this session, speakers will explore how peace and security are impacting development in African LDCs. Furthermore, participants will discuss mutually reinforcing dynamics of peace and development in conflict-affected countries and how to ensure a more integrated approach by the LDCs, their partners and multilateral institutions. Ways to broaden and strengthen the participation of LDCs in the institutions of global governance will also be discussed.

- Roundtable discussion (selected speakers)

- Interactive Discussion

18:00
NETWORKING DINNER
This session will explore the potential sources of growth to enable LDCs to achieve accelerated, inclusive and sustained growth by 2030. While structural transformation is linked to increased productivity through, among others, a growing contribution of manufacturing to the economy, services has historically been the largest contributor to GDP among the African LDCs. Speakers will highlight successful and innovative solutions to enable the African LDCs generate higher productivity and decent employment, including for women and the youth, in the era of technological advancement and the role a green economy can play in this respect.

Keynote Speaker

Roundtable discussion

- Interactive Discussion

This session will explore how improved market access, especially through the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, can boost regional and global trade of African LDCs. It will also discuss how competitiveness of African LDCs can be improved, including through access to sustainable energy and connectivity.

Keynote Speaker

Roundtable discussion

- Interactive Discussion

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Keynote Speaker

Roundtable discussion

- Interactive Discussion
SESSION VI - MOBILIZING RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICAN LDCs

This session will discuss experiences in domestic and international resource mobilization and discusses ways to facilitate the mobilization of the required resources, including innovative finance, to promote sustainable development in the African LDCs. The discussion will provide insights on the linkages between resource mobilization and other important areas impacting the abilities of countries to leverage domestic resources and take full advantage of international support, such as financial sector reform, domestic resource mobilization, development of adequate financial infrastructure or risk reduction. It will also look at trends in the provision of support for development by development partners and Southern providers of development cooperation.

Keynote Speaker

Roundtable discussion

- Interactive Discussion

COFFEE BREAK

SPECIAL BRIEFING ON THE INVESTMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR LDCs

SESSION VII - FIRESIDE CHAT: PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN AFRICAN LDCs

This session will feature successful experiences and lessons learned by private investors that have been successful in LDCs in different sectors. It will discuss how private investment can support efforts for poverty reduction through the creation of decent employment and the transfer and development of technologies and skills. It will explore avenues for leveraging domestic and foreign investment to support technological upgrade and productivity.

Davos style discussion:

- Interactive Discussion
SESSION VIII - BUILDING RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY: CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURAL DISASTERS

This session will discuss the factors affecting the high degree of vulnerability faced by the African LDCs. It will explore how adaptation to climate change and disaster resilience efforts relate to the sustainable development of African LDCs and discuss mechanisms and approaches that could contribute to resilience building. It will also explore workable solutions and mechanisms that could contribute to a better anchoring of resilience and sustainability issues as part of a new Programme of Action.

Keynote speaker

Roundtable discussion

- Interactive discussion

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION IX - ACHIEVING WELLBEING IN AFRICAN LDCs: ENDING POVERTY AND HUNGER, AND ENHANCING HUMAN CAPITAL

This session will explore the factors contributing to the high prevalence of poverty and hunger in the LDCs and explore the multiple dimensions limiting their poverty eradication efforts. It will discuss how progress towards human development can be accelerated through addressing the structural constraints and special needs of the African LDCs.

Keynote speaker

Roundtable discussion

- Interactive discussion
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