

**Statement by the Republic of Kazakhstan on behalf of the Group of
Landlocked Developing Countries at the informal plenary meeting of the
General Assembly on its President's priorities for the resumed part of the
seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly**
13 January 2020, Trusteeship Council Chamber, 15.00

Mr. President,
Distinguished colleagues,

Happy New Year to all of you and best wishes for this UN jubilee year!

Mr. President,

Thank you very much for convening this informal briefing on your priorities for the resumed part of the 74th session of the General Assembly.

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries and in my capacity of its new Chair for the term 2020-2021.

From the outset, our Group of countries would like to express its profound gratitude for the role which the President of General Assembly have played while leading the successfully held Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs for 2014-2024 which was convened on 5-6 December last year.

Let me assure you of the continuous support of the Group. Our 32 countries look forward to the implementation of your Roadmap's priorities.

We commend the activities which you have set forward as they are universal priorities for our humankind during this turmoil and alarming days worldwide.

In particular, we would like to underscore the importance of some of the President's activities to the Landlocked Developing Countries, in particular:

- High-level Thematic Debate on the "Impact of Rapid Technological Change on the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets";
- Informal Interactive Dialogue on Commodity Markets;
- Inclusion, Gender Equality and Women Empowerment;
- 2020 UN Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and Sustainably Use the Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development;
- SDG 4 on Education;
- High-Level Dialogue on Desertification;
- Financing for Development and Partnerships.

These priorities of yours will help in addressing some of the key areas of importance to the LLDCs highlighted in the Political Declaration of the Midterm Review and the Vienna Programme of Action itself.

Therefore we call the President and his Office to ensure that the special needs of the Landlocked Developing Countries are equally addressed in these activities.

In addition, our Group of vulnerable countries envisages that these activities will result in stronger partnerships for the LLDCs to implement the SDGs in due time with leaving no one behind.

Last but not least, this year the UN family will celebrate yet another milestone – its 75th Anniversary. Our task is to assess what superstructure we have erected on the building blocks since 1945, the MDGs and now of Agenda 2030, the strides accomplished, the success stories that can be replicated, and yet to have a critical view of the glaring silos that confront us. The myriad threats and challenges, ranging from deep poverty, gross deprivations, escalation of conflicts and wars, eroding democracy and rule of law, escalating terrorism, transnational crime, trafficking of all kinds, as well as extremism. Compounding all these is the threat of climate change.

It is critical that while we go from year to year, we also set long term targets. The 75th Anniversary should have a daring and bold vision. However, it is high time from now to look further – to the UN's centenary.

To conclude, Mr. President, the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries stands ready to contribute to the preparatory process to the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of our big international family which we celebrate this year.

Thank you.