

**PHILIPPINE DRAFT STATEMENT  
His EXCELLENCY PEDRO O. CHAN  
AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY  
TO THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY WITH CONCURRENT JURISDICTION  
OVER THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN AND GEORGIA**

MR. CHAIRMAN,

THE PHILIPPINES JOINS OTHERS IN CONGRATULATING YOU AND YOUR BUREAU FOR ASSUMING YOUR PIVOTAL ROLES IN GUIDING THIS FOURTH LDC CONFERENCE TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. MAY I ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY FOR THEIR EXCELLENT HOSTING OF THIS IMPORTANT EVENT.

ON MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE, THE PHILIPPINES ALIGNS ITSELF WITH THE STATEMENT DELIVERED BY ARGENTINA ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP 77 & CHINA. SINCE MOST LDCs ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE G77 & CHINA, IT IS INCUMBENT UPON OUR GROUP TO ASSIST OUR FELLOW DEVELOPING COUNTRIES NOT ONLY BY ADVOCATING THEIR ISSUES IN MEETINGS SUCH AS THIS, BUT ALSO TO DIRECTLY ASSIST THEM THROUGH SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION INITIATIVES. THIS MUCH WAS MADE CLEAR AS FAR BACK AS 1976 WHEN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE GROUP OF 77 & CHINA HELD IN MANILA ADOPTED THE MANILA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION THAT CONTAINED OBJECTIVES, AMONG OTHERS, OF:

- THE PROMOTION OF NATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS BY ENSURING THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THE TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITIES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND
- THE PROMOTION OF NATIONAL AND FOSTERING OF A PROGRAMME OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

IT IS NOT BY ANY STRETCH OF IMAGINATION THAT THIS MANILA DECLARATION SERVED AS AN INSPIRATION FOR THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE VERY NEXT YEAR— 1977— TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS 32/180 AND 32/181 WHICH RESPECTIVELY ESTABLISHED ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (ECDC) AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (TCDC). THIS, IN TURN, LED 138 COUNTRIES TO ADOPT IN 1978, THE BUENOS AIRES PLAN OF ACTION FOR PROMOTING AND IMPLEMENTING TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHICH OVER 30 YEARS LATER, CONTINUES TO BE THE “CONCEPTUAL

**UNDERPINNING AS WELL AS A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR REALIZING THE OBJECTIVES OF TCDC.”**

**THE PHILIPPINES FULFILLED ITS COMMITMENTS UNDER THESE VARIOUS AGREEMENTS BY ESTABLISHING IN 1979, A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COUNCIL (TAC) TO “IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WHICH CAN BE OFFERED IN THE PHILIPPINES UNDER THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES,” CALLED FOR UNDER UNCTAD RESOLUTION 98. THIS TAC WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SUPPLEMENTED IN THE NEXT YEAR BY AN INTER-AGENCY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. FINALLY, IN 1992, A TECHNICAL COOPERATION COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES WAS CREATED CONSOLIDATING ALL OF THESE OFFICES INTO ONE OFFICE. THIS LONG HISTORY OF COMMITMENT TO LDCs HAS RESULTED IN OVER 50 TCCP-SPONSORED PROJECTS FOR THE BENEFITS OF 539 PARTICIPANTS NOT ONLY FROM LDCs BUT ALSO FROM OTHER DEVELOPING NATIONS, FOR A TOTAL OF 85 COUNTRIES SO ASSISTED. THESE PROJECTS ARE FUNDED NOT ONLY BY THE PHILIPPINES BUT ALSO THROUGH TRIANGULAR ARRANGEMENTS WITH JICA, THE UNEP AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS.**

**REGIONALLY, THE PHILIPPINES IS COMMITTED TO ITS ASEAN LDC MEMBERS THROUGH COMMON PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES SUCH AS THE INITIATIVE FOR ASEAN INTEGRATION AND THE VIENTIANE PLAN OF ACTION, ALL OF WHICH RECOGNIZE DIFFERENTIATED CAPACITIES AND ADJUSTS FOR THESE SITUATIONS.**

**MR. CHAIRMAN,**

**THE PHILIPPINES BELIEVES THAT WHAT IS CURRENTLY BEING DONE IS NOT ENOUGH TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN LDCs. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION IS PRESENT IN ISTANBUL TO PARTICIPATE AND DESCRIBE HOW OUR NATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND FUTURE PLANS MAY BE OF VALUE TO THE LDCs.**

**THE PHILIPPINES WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN A NUMBER OF SIDE EVENTS IN COOPERATION WITH UN WOMEN, THE IOM AND ILO TO SPEAK ON NATIONAL PROGRAMS IN THE AREA OF GENDER, REMITTANCES AND DOMESTIC CARE WORKERS. THESE ISSUES ARE OF COMMON CONCERN WITH MANY LDCs AS MIGRATION IS A MAJOR VECTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. FOR MANY LDCs, THE AMOUNT OF REMITTANCES FROM WORKERS AND DIASPORA ABROAD COMPRISE A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THEIR GDPs AND, DEPENDING ON INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY CIRCUMSTANCES, REMITTANCES CAN BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY CONDITIONS BEYOND THE COUNTRIES’ OF ORIGIN CONTROL. GENDER ISSUES AFFECTING WOMEN LABORERS AT HOME AND ABROAD CUT ACROSS ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND FORM A KEY COMPONENT OF NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMS. I INVITE ALL PARTICIPANTS TO**

**ATTEND THESE SIDE EVENTS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW THE PHILIPPINE EXPERIENCE IN THESE AREAS MAY BE APPLICABLE TO THEIR SITUATIONS.**

**ANOTHER KEY PHILIPPINE INITIATIVE THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO THE LDCs IS THE ROLE OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN ACCELERATING EQUITABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GROWTH. THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT UNDER H.E. PRESIDENT BENIGNO SIMEON AQUINO III HAS IDENTIFIED PPPs AS A PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT THRUST, AND ONE KEY AREA OF WHICH WILL FOCUS ON THE ROLE OF PPPs IN HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.**

**THE PHILIPPINES IS IN THE PROCESS OF ASSOCIATING ITSELF WITH THE UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (UNECE) INTERNATIONAL PPP CENTERS INITIATIVE, IN PARTICULAR AS A PPP SPECIALIST CENTER FOR HEALTH. AS A SPECIALIST CENTER FOR HEALTH, THE PHILIPPINES WOULD BE AN INTERNATIONAL FOCAL POINT AND GLOBAL REPOSITORY IN THE IDENTIFICATION, COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND DISSEMINATION OF BEST PRACTICES IN HEALTHCARE PPP. THIS INNOVATIVE SCHEME WOULD BE ADVOCATED AS AN IMPORTANT TOOL FOR GOVERNMENTS THAT ARE UNABLE TO MEET THEIR HEALTHCARE NEEDS.**

**THE CENTER WILL OPERATED UNDER MOUs BETWEEN THE UNECE AND THE HOST COUNTRIES. THE CENTER WOULD BE ABLE TO NETWORK WITH PPP EXPERTS AND INVESTORS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD THROUGH A UNIQUE NETWORK THAT WOULD ALLOW ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO INTERACT AND CONNECT FOR PROVISION OF SERVICES AND/OR INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. THIS CONVENIENT HUB WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCESS MORE GRANTS AND/OR FUNDS NEEDED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE PHILIPPINES HOPES TO IMPROVE ITS HOSPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PARTICULARLY BASIC RURAL HEALTH CARE, AND ITS EXPERIENCE CAN SURELY SERVE AS SORT OF BEST PRACTICE ONCE REALIZED.**

**MR. CHAIRMAN,**

**IT IS CLEAR THAT DESPITE THESE GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL EFFORTS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO HELP THEMSELVES, A LARGE PART OF ASSISTANCE REMAINS TO BE FULFILLED BY DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTNERS. THE PAST DECADE UNDER THE BRUSSELS PROGRAMME OF ACTION HAS NOT RESULTED IN THE OVERALL IMPROVEMENT OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE LDCs. THE RECENT GLOBAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISIS, COUPLED WITH FOOD, FUEL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES HAVE ALSO ADVERSELY AND DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED THE 880 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE LDCs.**

**IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO CONTINUE THE EXISTING PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO HELP THE LDCs, THIS CONFERENCE MUST MOVE ABOVE AND BEYOND "BUSINESS AS USUAL" AND SEEK ADDITIONAL AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO ASSISTANCE.**

**THE PPP APPROACH DESCRIBED EARLIER MUST BE SUPPLEMENTED WITHIN THE LDCs BY DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFICIENT INTERNAL PRIVATE SECTOR TO BUILD THE CAPACITY OF LDCs IN ORDER FOR THEM TO FULLY BENEFIT AND DEVELOP VENTURE CAPITAL OPERATIONS.**

**FURTHERMORE, THE GOOD GOVERNANCE AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS WOULD BE CRUCIAL IN ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF SUSTAINED AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND REDUCTION OF POVERTY. THE PHILIPPINES CONSIDERS GOOD GOVERNANCES AS A KEY ELEMENT IN EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSING POVERTY ERADICATION EFFORTS AS PART OF THE ATTAINMENT OF THE MDGs.**

**FINALLY, WITH REGARD TO OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, THE PHILIPPINES RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS TO WORK TOGETHER IN FORA SUCH AS THIS CONFERENCE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY, IMPACT AND EFFECTIVENESS OF AID BASED ON PARIS PRINCIPLES ON AID EFFECTIVENESS AND THE ACCRA ACTION AGENDA, WITH STRENGTHENED COUNTRY LEVEL COORDINATION WHERE LDCs TAKE OWNERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP ROLES IN MAKING RELEVANT POLICY CHOICES AND IMPLEMENTING THEM EFFECTIVELY. WE JOIN THE CALL OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR OUR DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTNERS TO FULFILL COMMITMENTS MADE AND WHERE POSSIBLE MAKE ADDITIONAL EFFORTS TO HELP THE LDCs ACHIEVE THE MDGs AND OTHER INTERNATIONALLY AGREED DEVELOPMENT GOALS.**

**MR. CHAIRMAN,**

**THE FUTURE OF THE LDCs WILL BE DECIDED BY OUR DISCUSSIONS IN ISTANBUL THIS WEEK. THE ECOSOC COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY (CDP) IN CHARGE OF THE TRIENNIAL ASSESSMENT ON THE LDCs IS ITSELF LOOKING AT WAYS TO IMPROVE AND BECOME MORE RESPONSIVE TO LDC NEEDS. OUR GOAL SHOULD BE TO MAKE THE CDP IRRELEVANT WHERE ALL THE LDCs EVENTUALLY ARE CONFIDENT ENOUGH TO GRADUATE TO THE RANKS AND TO SEIZE THEIR FUTURE ON A RISING TIDE OF SUSTAINABLE PROGRESS FOR ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ALL COUNTRIES SHOULD BE GIVEN THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LEVEL PLAYING FIELD, AND ISTANBUL WILL SURELY BE REMEMBERED FOR THE PRODIGIOUS EFFORT EXERTED BY THE HOST TURKEY, AS WELL AS ALL OF US IN THE DIFFERENT TRACKS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THE WORLD'S MOST DISADVANTAGED.**

**THANK YOU.**