

**Remarks by Ambassador Ochir Ochirjav,
Head of the delegation of Mongolia at
the Fourth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries
9 – 13 May 2011, Istanbul, Turkey**

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I express my Government's appreciation to the Government of Turkey and the United Nations for the excellent organization of this important Conference on the LDCs and my delegation's thanks to the Government of Turkey for warm hospitality in the historic city of Istanbul.

Mongolia fully supports the 10-year appraisal and review of the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action by the UN Secretary-General in his report which identifies lessons learned and best practices, as well as actions and initiatives needed to overcome persisting obstacles.

The Government of Mongolia notes that the Programme had played the important role in the development of LDCs. During the last 10-year period, LDCs had achieved good progresses in areas of such as trade and investment and social development, increased their shares in the world export structure from 0.62 per cent to 1.08 per cent and developed public education achieving some Millennium Development Goals.

However, LDCs could not make similar progress in some directions suffering from multiple effects of the food and energy crisis, the global and economic crisis, and the climate change. The Government of Mongolia shares the Asia-Pacific regional conclusion that the Programme remains an unfinished agenda for the Asia-Pacific LDCs.

We are hopeful that the Istanbul Programme of Action will be robust enough, result oriented and focus on the special needs of the LDCs in building their productive capacities, infrastructure development, trade, health, education, good governance, financing for development, climate change mitigation, reducing poverty and developing partnership and cooperation.

18 least developed countries are also land-locked countries. To secure the sustainable economic growth, specially the development of international trade of land-locked countries, it is important to facilitate and liberalize the trade and eliminate the tariff and non-tariff barriers in trade, decrease the transit trade expenditures and successfully complete the Doha Round.

It is my pleasure to inform the Conference that a multilateral intergovernmental agreement on the establishment of International Research Center of land-locked developing countries (LLDCs) was approved by the 9th ministerial meeting of LLDCs in September 2010 in New York. As the Agreement was signed by Mongolia on 25

April 2011, the Government of Mongolia appeals land-locked least developed countries to sign it and facilitate its earlier entry into force.

The Government of Mongolia considers that defining and establishing the economic and ecological vulnerability indicators would be important for LDCs and LLDCs as their vulnerability is defined in the outcome papers of the 2010 Millennium Development Goals Summit. The development partners should provide assistances in establishing such indicators.

Last April Mongolia hosted the High-level Asia-Pacific Policy Dialogue on the implementation of the Almaty Program of Action and other development gaps faced by the land-locked developing countries. This is a first dialogue among the regional land-locked developing countries. As such it lays down an excellent start for consolidation of our joint efforts to advance our interests through Asia and the Pacific.

As I conclude my break remarks, I would like to table a notice that Mongolia is going to take chairmanship of the Community of Democracies for years of 2011- 2013. During its chairmanship, Mongolia will cooperate with all countries, including LDCs, on the issues of developing education of democracy, supporting civil societies and regional activities and strengthening democracy.

Thank you for your kind attention.