



संयुक्त राष्ट्र सघका लागि नेपालको स्थायी नियोग  
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Statement by H.E. Ambassador Gyan Chandra Acharya, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations in New York, at the general discussion under the agenda item 6(a): Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits: follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, Geneva, 11 July 2011

Mr. President,

I deliver this statement on behalf of the least developed countries. I associate myself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of G-77 and China. Let me express our sincere thanks to the Secretary General for preparing the report on "Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact" for deliberation under this agenda item.

In the wake of the economic and financial crises, the Global Jobs Pact envisions a job-rich recovery and lays strong foundation for quality growth with a particular focus on full employment and decent work for all.

It is evident that without jobs recovery, sustainable economic recovery will be difficult to achieve. Weak recovery in employment and wages is a major challenge for all. The sustainable, job-rich economic recovery, therefore, calls for according priorities to promoting labour market policies and institutions; providing training to the unemployed; tackling youth unemployment; building fiscal sustainability; developing a stronger framework for global economic cooperation and coordination; and cooperating with social partners to help to prevent confrontation and social unrest.

The financial and economic crises have hit the youth population hardest. The current macroeconomic forecasts project the global unemployment rate at 6.1 per cent in 2011, corresponding to global unemployment of 203.3 million. In LDCs a substantial number of workers are still engaged in vulnerable employment, if they are employed at all.

The consequences of unemployment, underemployment or disguised unemployment are particularly severe in the developing countries, especially in LDCs, owing to the lack of social protection to support basic living standards as a result of capacity constraints. Majority of workers do not have a safety net to rely on in times of need. Building a social protection floor is critical. It is equally essential that job-rich growth in the post-crises situation is supported by greater innovations and technology transfers. The 2012 AMR theme will provide yet another opportunity for all of us to make a comprehensive review of these issues.

Mr. President,

As stated in the Istanbul Programme of Action, the ongoing impact of the economic and financial crises demonstrate the urgency of appropriate regional and international support to be deployed in a timely and targeted manner to complement LDCs' efforts aimed at building resilience in the face of economic shocks and mitigating their effects. These crises have had a significant impact on employment in LDCs, particularly in export-oriented industries, mining and manufacturing. The number of people living in extreme poverty was estimated to be 7.3 million more than it would have been without the crises in 2009. Several LDCs confronted similar difficulties in terms of closed-down manufacturing factories, especially in labour-intensive sectors. Women were disproportionately affected by job losses in export processing zones and the tourism sector.

There is therefore a need for using existing crisis mitigation facilities and measures for targeted, timely and adequate support to LDCs while working towards the establishment of a dedicated mechanism for them. The IPOA also highlights the necessity of securing sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development in LDCs in order to build their resilience to withstand future crises while at the same time addressing the human costs of these shocks.

This calls for providing financial and technical support for LDCs' risk mitigation strategies, such as national facilities for crisis mitigation and resilience, to strengthen their capacity to respond to the effects of economic shocks. Development partners should continue to support the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and regional development banks' schemes and facilities to provide concessional lending and grants to LDCs.

In spite of fiscal difficulties, LDC Governments have made strenuous efforts, as per their capacity to build their social protection floor in the wake of the crises. Strong social protection policies help mitigate the rise in unemployment and offset the social impacts on the real economy. The IPOA has incorporated social protection as an important area of intervention.

Fulfillment of commitments in ODA, trade and debt relief as well as supportive measures to promote FDI in LDCs will have salutary impact on poverty eradication through full and productive employment generation and decent work for all. We, therefore, urge all our development partners to provide all the support measures as enunciated in the IPOA fully, timely and effectively in order to address this particular issue and others in a comprehensive and holistic manner.

I thank you.