

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FORUM

Caucus of Least Developed Countries

4 November 2015, 5:00 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

Meera Hall, Speke Resort, Kampala, Uganda

Issues Note

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development addresses the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development. It also seeks to promote economic growth, structural transformation, environmental sustainability and social protection, which are priority areas for LDCs.

If the agreed targets on ending extreme poverty, in the spirit of leaving no one behind, are to be met, a specific focus on LDCs is needed in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. These countries – which are highly vulnerable – face complex challenges in each of the three dimensions of sustainable development. Greater focus of development cooperation on their specific needs will also support the implementation and follow-up of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) as well as achieving its overarching goal of graduation.

The Addis Ababa Agenda for Action as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development entail several provisions specifically for LDCs, including capacity building in various areas for example to increase their resilience and enhance their ability to respond to various kinds of shocks including financial crisis, natural disasters, and public health emergencies. They also call for the operationalization of the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism as well as investment promotion regimes for LDCs.

Objective

The meeting will discuss the objectives of the DCF Symposium and aims to share views on how all relevant actors can adjust their development cooperation policies towards achieving the SDGs in LDCs. The discussions will focus in particular on how development cooperation could better address the challenges of LDCs to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and

the Addis Ababa Agenda for Action. Participants may also discuss how private and blended finance could be used to mobilize additional resources.

Participants from LDCs will be invited to share their views on what it will take to make sure that development cooperation will fully support the implementation of the SDGs in LDCs.

Proposed discussion questions:

How are LDCs planning to use development cooperation to implement the SDGs, linking efforts to other processes, including the IPoA?

What practical changes will need to be made at the country level to adapt development cooperation interventions towards aligned, integrated and coherent ways of achieving the SDGs?

How can development cooperation contribute to building long-term capacity for science, technology and innovation for implementing the SDGs?

How can private and blended finance be useful in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

Format and participation

Participants of the DCF Uganda Symposium from LDCs, including various stakeholders like parliamentarians and civil society representatives will use the Caucus to share practical experiences and identify key policy recommendations they wish to convey at the DCF Symposium.

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