



**United
Nations**

Committee for
Development
Policy

Statement by Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Chair of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP)

“Conversation with Executive Secretaries of regional commissions and Chairs of functional commissions and expert bodies on sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda”

1 February 2024

10:00 a.m. to 12:00pm (NY time)

Submitted in writing

Excellencies,

Distinguished participants,

At its upcoming plenary meeting, to take place on March 4-8, the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) will discuss innovation ecosystems for development, structural change and equity. The Committee is approaching this issue from multiple angles, based on a shared understanding that there is an urgent need for a new way of thinking to ensure innovation for the public interest and equity, learning from past experience and applying creative solutions for the challenges of a new environment defined by the rise of the digital economy, climate change, pandemic threats, and significant demographic changes but also by the persistence or aggravation of old inequalities and specialization patterns that work against those furthest behind. Technological advance and innovation are cross-cutting themes across the 17 SDGs. They are at the core of SDGs 8, 9 and 17, and crucial to implementation of the other goals, as reflected in multiple references in the means of implementation targets, in SDGs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12 and 14. The Committee will report to ECOSOC on this topic over the course of the year.

Also on the agenda for the upcoming CDP plenary is the triennial review of the LDC category, and specifically the decision on whether to recommend eligible countries for graduation from the category. While several LDCs are advancing towards graduation, as a whole this group of countries is still facing severe, long-lasting and multidimensional consequences of recent global crises.

In 2023, in addition to work on the LDC category and graduation, the CDP worked on a **just transition to low-carbon and environmentally sustainable economies and external debt**. It also **took stock of the** lessons from its analysis of the voluntary national reviews, or VNRs.

On a just transition, the Committee recommended inclusive social and political dialogue; financing, technological and intellectual property rights frameworks that work for developing countries; policy space for developing countries to pursue industrial policy; and an end to measures that effectively shift the burden of the transition onto poorer countries.

On external debt, the CDP called for improved debt relief, a strengthening of national debt management capacities, national action to avoid debt crises, transparency, and action on issues related to compensation for loss and damage due to climate change, among others.

The Committee recommended a new generation of VNRs, refocused towards evidence-based analysis of progress, policy successes and failures; assessing the core transformative elements of the 2030 Agenda; reviewing lessons learned; ensuring greater space for the contributions of civil society; and more systematic peer review arrangements. A Communiqué reflecting these recommendations is being prepared and will be issued presently.

It is our sincere hope that our recommendations contribute to the work of ECOSOC and to action accelerating the implementation of the SDGs.

Thank you.