Welcome to CDP Updates, an electronic digest keeping you informed about activities carried out by the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) and its Secretariat. Recent news and future activities include the following:

**The new membership of the Committee for Development Policy (2016-18)**
The new membership of the CDP started its three-year term on 1 January 2016. The 24 experts were nominated by the Secretary-General and endorsed by ECOSOC, by taking into account of diversity of their development experience, geographical and gender balance, as well as balance between continuity and change in the membership of the Committee.

**Graduation of Vanuatu has been deferred to 2020**
The General Assembly on its resolution A/RES/70/78 adopted on 9 December 2015 decided to extend the preparatory period before graduation for Vanuatu by three years, until 4 December 2020. The extension was granted on exceptional basis due to the unique disruption caused to the economic and social progress of Vanuatu by Cyclone Pam.

**Angola is scheduled to graduate in 2021**
The General Assembly adopted a resolution (A/RES/70/253 of 12 February 2016) on the graduation of Angola from the least developed country category. It also decided to grant Angola an additional two years, on an exceptional basis, before the start of the three-year preparatory period leading to graduation.

**French version of the Handbook on the Least Developed Country Category**
The second edition of the Handbook is now available in French. This revised edition provides updated comprehensive information on the least developed country category, including a description of procedures and methodologies used in the identification of these countries, and the support measures associated with the category.

**Cost-benefit analysis for identifying institutional capacity building priorities in LDCs**
CDP Background Paper No. 30 by Namsuk Kim and Roland Mollerus, both of the CDP Secretariat, describes a cost-benefit analysis framework as a tool to identify institutional constraints and prioritize access to support measures by comparing benefits with costs, based on survey data.

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**About the Committee for Development Policy (CDP)**
The CDP is a subsidiary body of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. It provides inputs and independent advice to the Council on emerging cross-sectoral development issues and on international cooperation for development, focusing on medium- and long-term aspects. The CDP is also responsible for the triennial review of the list of least developed countries (LDCs).