



2016 High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum

Side event

Effective Development Cooperation for Least Developed Countries

22 July 2016 from 13:15 to 14:45

Conference Room 11, UNHQ, New York

Background

The high-level midterm review of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) for the Least Developed Countries, took place in Antalya, Turkey from 27 to 29 of May 2016. The review resulted in a political declaration, which emphasizes that development cooperation needs to go well beyond financial cooperation while reaffirming the importance of meeting ODA commitments and striving to provide increased financial resources. While ODA remains critical to LDCs to fill up the enormous development financing gap, the declaration also highlights that an important use of international public finance, including ODA, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private. It also welcomes continued efforts to improve the quality, impact and effectiveness of development cooperation and reaffirms the commitment to give special attention to the LDCs in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the Addis Ababa Agenda for Action entail several provisions specifically for LDCs, including capacity building in various areas for example to build productive capacity and to reduce their vulnerability and enhance their ability to respond to various kinds of shocks.

Objective

The side event will explore ways on how LDCs can benefit more from development cooperation. It aims to share views on how all relevant actors can adjust their development cooperation institutions and policies towards achieving the goals and targets of the IPoA as well as the SDGs in LDCs. In this respect it will build on the discussions especially at the DCF High level Symposium in Brussels that elaborated on what makes development cooperation work in the most vulnerable countries, in particular the LDCs and how development cooperation should be tailored to support these countries to achieve the SDGs.

The discussions will focus on LDC specific constraints in particular lack of capacities for implementing the 2030 Agenda and strategies to overcome them. To achieve the new global development goals a stronger focus on LDCs is crucial in order to leave no one behind. The side event will also discuss what type of support is most appropriate to address issues that require policy integration across the dimensions of sustainable development, including environmental concerns. Thus the event will contribute towards providing policy guidance on development cooperation in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Proposed discussion questions:

- How can the institutional capacity of LDCs to manage development cooperation and enhance national ownership be increased?

- How can LDCs attract more resources from development cooperation and use them more effectively?
- What types of assistance are needed to implement the SDGs in different country contexts in LDCs and how can development cooperation be made fit-for-purpose?
- What new partnerships can be forged to support the implementation of the SDGs and the IPoA ?
- What institutional changes are needed in LDCs to promote policy coherence and coordinated implementation of the SDGs?

Format and participation

The side event will be organized in the form of a panel discussion. As panelists relevant Ministers from LDCs and development partners, parliamentarians as well as representatives of civil society and the private sector will be invited. This will be followed by interactive discussion among all participants.

Speakers

- Opening remarks by **Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya**, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and High-Representative, UN-OHRLS
- **Ms. Brenda Killen**, Deputy-Director of the Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD
- **Mr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram**, Holder of Tun Hussein Onn Chair, Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia
- **Mr. Joseph Enyimu**, Head of Planning, Ministry of Finance, Planning & Economic Development, Uganda
- **Mr. Luca de Fraia**, Deputy Secretary-General, ActionAid Italia