



**H.E. Ambassador Martin Sajdik
President of the Economic and Social Council**

**Informal stock-taking meeting of the Economic and Social Council on the Second
UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries**

New York, 13 January 2015

CLOSING REMARKS

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Thank you for this enriching morning discussion. Allow me to extend my sincere gratitude to our distinguished speakers for their views on how best the outcomes of the 2014 UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries can be successfully integrated in existing multilateral processes, including the post-2015 development agenda, Sustainable Development Goals, Financing for Development, the Climate Change Agenda, and the work of ECOSOC.

Over the past decade, Landlocked Developing Countries experienced a period of notable development progress with the support of their development partners and multilateral institutions. In spite of this progress, LLDCs are still facing enormous challenges related to landlockedness, geographical isolation and remoteness. The challenges are complex and multi-faceted. However, a set of actions and strategies, to be undertaken by the LLDCs and their development partners including transit neighbours, the private sector, United Nations system entities and other multilateral organizations, have been identified through the Vienna Programme of Action.

This development agenda seeks to put LLDCs on a steady path for sustainable, inclusive and more rapid economic growth and development with the stated aim of ending extreme poverty, and is founded on strong and close collaboration between LLDCs and their

development partners including multilateral, bilateral and the South-South and triangular cooperation.

In this context, it is crucial that the Economic and Social Council ensures that the challenges and issues of LLDCs are adequately addressed, in partnership with other identified stakeholders and in particular, in parallel with other global initiatives aimed at improving the economic and social wellbeing in LLDCs.

Today's deliberations are a contribution to an integrated and coordinated approach to the implementation and follow-up of the Vienna Programme of Action. Let us work together to turn this ambitious programme of action into reality. I look forward to working with you all towards that end. Thank you.