



UN-OHRLS

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

Consultative Meeting in Preparation of LDC5

21 -22 October 2021
Tarrytown, New York

Concept Note

I. Background

The General Assembly decided to hold the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) in Doha, Qatar, from 23 to 27 January 2022 at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government, in line with the mandate specified in resolutions 73/242 and 74/232. The expected outcome of LDC5, a new 10-year programme of action for the LDCs, will be adopted at a critical time, falling within the last 10 years of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals across the LDCs.

At the LDC5 Conference, the international community is expected to: undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the IPoA; mobilize additional international support measures and action in favour of LDCs; and agree on a renewed partnership between LDCs and their development partners to overcome structural challenges, eradicate poverty, achieve internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the LDC category.

The first Session of the Preparatory Committee was held in May 2021, co-chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Bangladesh and Canada, featuring interactive discussions on structural challenges of LDCs as well as emerging issues, with a view to provide inputs for the formulation of the new Programme of Action. At its second session, held in July 2021, negotiations of the outcome document started, based on the [Zero Draft of the Outcome Document](#), submitted by the LDC Group and circulated to all member states by the co-chairs. The draft text builds on national and regional reviews, thematic appraisals as well as the deliberations at the first session of the Preparatory Committee and suggests enhanced commitments on a broad range of topics related to overcoming the structural vulnerabilities of LDCs. [Rev1 of the Draft Outcome Document](#), circulated to all member states by the co-

chairs on 15 September 2021 is a co-chairs' text developed through informal consultations between Member States and incorporates some suggestions made by UN Agencies and Civil Society Organizations.

The draft outcome document features a number of concrete deliverables for LDCs, with the aim to ensure dedicated support to LDCs in order to overcome their specific challenges and obstacles to development, especially through enhancing resilience to various types of shocks. Such deliverables have been suggested in the areas of early warning systems, agriculture, education, social protection, and graduation support among others. A specific focus has been put on enhancing financial resources available to LDCs, including through private investment, blended finance and debt relief.

II. **Objective**

The key objective of the consultative meeting is to explore in greater depth the potential deliverables for the LDC5 Conference. Representatives of relevant UN agencies and experts will be invited to attend the retreat and present to member states the proposals for the deliverables that are currently in the draft outcome document and under discussion. These include an online university, an International Investment Support Center, resilience building mechanism, enhanced aid for trade and blended finance going to LDCs, and enhanced support for graduating countries including through a Sustainable Graduation Support Facility. Presenters will also be available for discussions relating to their feasibility, and potential implementation.

III. **Format**

The event will include a working dinner on Thursday, 21 October, and a full day of working sessions on Friday, 22 October, including presentations on specific topics followed by interactive dialogue among all meeting participants.

The meeting will be organised by OHRLLS. Permanent Representatives of LDCs and Friends of LDCs (plus one expert), relevant UN system and selected substantive experts will be invited.

Background documents

[OHRLLS \(2021\): State of the Least Developed Countries 2021. Building back better in response to COVID-19](#)

[OECD-UNCDF \(2020\): Blended Finance in the Least Developed Countries](#)