

S p r e c h z e t t e l

Anlass: Teilnahme RL200 an Afrika-Vorbereitungskonferenz für LDC V Gipfel in 2022

Thema: Session 1: Ministerial Dialogue: Lessons Learned and Building Back Better

I. Gesprächsziel

- Darstellung der BMZ Aktivitäten zur Unterstützung der LDC bei der Bewältigung der Covid-19 Pandemie.

II. Sprechpunkte (englisch, Eingangsstatement 3-5 min)

- Dear Honorable Chair, dear Honorable Ministers of African LDCs and Haiti as well as Development Partner, Representative of UN Bodies, International and Regional Organizations as well as Civil Society.
- The **Africa Regional Review** meeting is an important opportunity to assess the structural challenges and emerging issues faced by African LDCs and Haiti in pursuing sustainable development. The outcomes of this week's discussions will guide to achieve the goals and targets of the IPoA, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as Agenda 2063.
- Aiming at fostering a better recovery from the crisis, **Germany will continue its long-lasting cooperation with LDCs**, using the 2030 Agenda as a yardstick, mobilizing public and private investments for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Germany is aware of the pressing needs and additional challenges LDCs face due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.** Seeing the effect of the second wave of this pandemic, it is of utmost importance to assist the LDCs to overcome the devastating impact.

We already launched an **Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme** to help expand health infrastructure in developing countries, secure jobs, ensure food security and stabilize crisis regions and refugee camps in 2020. **In this regard, we committed 4,3 billion Euros from our 2020 and 2021 development budget.** This Programme will help partner countries to better cope with this unparalleled situation. We will either beat coronavirus worldwide together or not at all.

- Germany has repeatedly stressed the need to promote equitable access to vaccines and support the global ACT-Accelerator in the G7 and G20. In 2020, we were the second biggest donor after the UK with 600 million EUR. **Furthermore, Germany has just pledged to increase its support to the global ACT-Accelerator by an additional 1.5 billion EUR.**
- Our swift joint action has led to the approval of a number of vaccines in the US, the UK and the EU and we have started vaccinating our populations across the globe.
- COVAX has also made significant progress with its most recent announcement of having secured its target 2bn doses. However, we remain concerned at the state of progress and are doing our utmost to step up our financial and political efforts to support a multilateral solution.
- **More countries as well as the multilateral development banks need to step in to fund the ACT-Accelerator's efforts in 2021.** Otherwise we're faced with an asymmetry that means we're vaccinating our populations through 2021 while large parts of the world go unserved.
- The COVID-19 crisis must be an opportunity to build resilience against future crises and shocks, as well as to accelerate the global

transformation towards sustainable development, and lay the foundations to resilient, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable economies.

- We support developing countries' efforts to overcome the macroeconomic shock, fiscal and external imbalances caused by COVID-19, restore fiscal space and sustainability in the medium and long term, and enhance environmental sustainability, to recover better in line with their national sustainable development strategies and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- We explicitly **welcome a discussion on how to align recovery measures with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**. We pay significant attention to the goal to "recover forward" using the 2030 Agenda as compass for a transformation towards sustainable development.
- Donor countries should use their fiscal policy space and capacities to implement transformative approaches. **"Build back better and greener"** should be a leading slogan in future development policy and policy making through carbon-neutral investments and transformative policies. Development cooperation efforts should focus on job and income generating green, resilient and inclusive growth alongside health care and social spending.
- A focus on social inclusion in strengthening health and social systems will address social deficits: even middle classes in LDCs have a high risk of falling back into poverty.
- **We are interested in learning more about the efforts and measures that are being taken by LDCs to combat the pandemic.** Is there enough supply of vaccines, and could effective vaccination programmes be started in the meantime? What are the major hurdles to overcome?