
Statement of Prof Dr Saleemul Huq, Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Independent University Bangladesh (IUB).

First, let me introduce myself and my relationship with the LDC Group in the arena of Climate Change. I have been associated as an adviser to the LDC Group in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since the group was formally set up in 2001. I advise the Chair (currently Bhutan) and the group on Adaptation, finance and loss and damage.

I have also been working with many universities in the LDCs through the LDC Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC) which is run by my Centre in Bangladesh.

I would like to provide three points for the consideration of the LDC5 preparatory meeting.

1. The LDC countries are amongst the most vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change as recognised under Article 4 of the UNFCCC. Hence the issue of tackling climate change should be high on the agenda for the LDC5
2. The LDC Group under the leadership of Bhutan has set up three major climate change related initiatives to run until 2030. These are as follows:
 - a. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative (REEEI)
 - b. LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE AR), and
 - c. LDC Universities' Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC)
3. Going forward, every LDC should aim to graduate out of the LDC status and this will require strengthening their adaptive capacity and resilience to Climate Change impacts. My Centre and the universities in the LUCCC network would be happy to engage with the LDC5 meeting if you feel it would be helpful.

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