



**PrepCom 1**  
24-28 MAY 2021



LDC5  
5TH UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON THE  
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

**Preparatory Committee**  
**for the Fifth United Nations Conference**  
**on the Least Developed Countries**  
First session  
New York, 24-28 May 2021

**Draft Programme**

**Monday, 24 May**

**10 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
**(in-person meeting**  
**CR 1,2 and 3)**

Opening of the session by the Co-Chairs of the PrepCom (and adoption of the agenda and organization of work – Item 2)

- H.E. Ms. Rabab Fatima, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh
- H.E. Mr. Robert Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada

Opening statements

- H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir, President General Assembly (video statement)
- H.E. Mr. Munir Akram, President of Economic and Social Council
- Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations (tbc)

Keynote speakers

- His Excellency Mr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi and Minister for Defense (video statement)
- H.E. Soltan bin Saad Al-Muraikhi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar (video statement)

Speakers:

- Ms. Susanna Moorehead, Chair, OECD Development Assistance Committee (video statement)
- Ms. Fekitamoeloa 'Utoikamanu, USG and Secretary-General of the LDC5 Conference

General Statements by Member States

(Item 3(b) Preparations for the Conference: substantive preparations)

**3–5 p.m.**  
**(virtual informal**  
**meeting)**

**Thematic panel discussion 1:**  
**Investing in people in least developed countries: eradicating poverty and building capacity to leave no one behind**

Chairs:

- H.E. Mr. Robert Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada
- H.E. Mr. Antonio Rodrigue, Permanent Representative of Haiti

Keynote speakers:

- Hon Karina Gould, Minister of International Development of Canada (video statement)



**PrepCom 1**  
24-28 MAY 2021



LDC5  
5TH UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON THE  
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Panelists:

- Mr. Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator
- Ms. Gita Sen, Director & Distinguished Professor, Ramalingaswami Centre on Equity & Social Determinants of Health (RCESDH) Public Health Foundation of India
- Ms. Gabriela Bucher, Executive Director, Oxfam International
- Ms. Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, Chief Executive, Christian Aid

Interactive discussion

## Tuesday, 25 May

**10 a.m.–12 p.m.**  
(virtual informal meeting)

**Thematic panel discussion 2:  
Leveraging the power of science, technology and innovation to fight multidimensional vulnerabilities and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals**

Chairs:

- H.E. Ms. Marie Chatardová, Permanent Representative of Czech Republic
- H.E. Mr. Perks Master Clemency Ligoya, Permanent Representative of Malawi

Keynote speakers:

- H.E. Mr. Sajeeb Wazed, Information and Communication Technology Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh
- Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union

Panelists:

- Ms. Thelma Quaye, Head of Digital Infrastructure and Capacity Building, Smart Africa Secretariat
- Dr. Shahid Yusuf, Chief Economist of The Growth Dialogue, George Washington University School of Business and Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins University SAIS
- Mr. Joshua Setipa, Managing Director, Technology Bank for LDCs

Interactive discussion

**3–5 p.m.**  
(virtual informal meeting)

**Thematic panel discussion 3:  
Structural transformation as a driver of prosperity**

Chair:

- H.E. Mr. Taye Atskeselassie Made, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia

Keynote speaker:

- H.E. Mr. Faruk Kaymakci, Deputy Foreign Minister and Director for EU Affairs of Turkey

Panelists:

- Dr. Agnes Kalibata, Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary General to the Food Systems Summit
- Mr. Paul Akiwumi, Director, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes of UNCTAD
- Mr. Gauri Pradhan, International Coordinator, LDC Watch



**PrepCom 1**  
24-28 MAY 2021



LDC5  
5TH UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON THE  
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Interactive discussion

## Thursday, 27 May

**10 a.m.–12 p.m.**  
(virtual informal  
meeting)

### **Thematic panel discussion 4: Enhancing international trade of least developed countries and regional integration**

Chairs:

- H.E. Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai, Permanent Representative of Nepal
- H.E. Mr. Julio César Arriola Ramírez, Permanent Representative of Paraguay

Keynote speakers:

- H.E. Dr. Abul Kalam Abdul Momen, Member of Parliament, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh
- H.E. Dr. Edward Hinga Sandy, Minister of Trade and Industry of Sierra Leone

Panelists:

- Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, Director, Development Division, World Trade Organisation
- Dr. Emily Blanchard, Associate Professor at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College
- Dr. Rubana Haque, Former President, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers Association

Interactive discussion

**3–5 p.m.**  
(virtual informal  
meeting)

### **Thematic panel discussion 5: Supporting our climate, recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and building a resilient society against future shocks**

Chairs:

- H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of Qatar
- H.E. Ms. Rabab Fatima, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh

Keynote speakers:

- H.E. Mr. Sonam Phuntsho Wangdi (Bhutan), Chair of the LDC Group at the UN Climate Change negotiations, Bhutan (video statement)
- Mr. Trigg Talley, Director, Office of Global Change, U.S. Department of State

Panelists:

- Mr. Selwin Hart, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action and Assistant Secretary-General for the Climate Action Team
- Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Coordinator, ENERGIA
- Mr. Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC
- Ms. Sandra Delali Kemeh, Chair of Africa Youth Advisory Board (AYAB) on Disaster Risk Reduction

Interactive discussion



**PrepCom 1**  
24-28 MAY 2021



LDC5  
5TH UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON THE  
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

## Friday, 28 May

10 a.m.–1 p.m.  
(in-person meeting  
CR 1,2 and 3)

**Thematic panel discussion 6:  
Mobilizing international solidarity, reinvigorated global partnerships and innovative tools for risk-informed sustainable development: a march towards sustainable graduation**

Chairs:

- H.E. Mr. Perks Master Clemency Ligoya, Permanent Representative of Malawi
- H.E. Mr. Feridun Hadi Sinirlioğlu, Permanent Representative of Turkey

Keynote speakers:

- H.E. Ms. Jutta Urpilainen, European Commissioner for International Partnerships (video statement)
- Hon. Rexon Ramofafia, Minister of National Planning and Development Coordination of Solomon Islands (tbc)

Panelists:

- Mr. Taffere Tesfachew, CDP Member, Senior Advisor, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change
- Ms. Harpinder Collacott, Executive Director, Development Initiatives
- Mr. Thulani Shongwe, Manager International Taxation, African Tax Administration Forum

Interactive discussion

**Item 4: Adoption of the provisional agenda of the second session of the Preparatory Committee**  
**Items 6, 7: Other matters and adoption of the report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee at its first session**

Chairs:

- H.E. Ms. Rabab Fatima, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh
- H.E. Mr. Robert Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada

Adoption of the [provisional agenda of the second session of the Preparatory Committee](#)

Adoption of the report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee at its first session

- Introduction of the report by the Rapporteur H.E. Mr. Julio César Arriola Ramírez, Permanent Representative of Paraguay

3–5 p.m.  
(virtual informal  
meeting)

**Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference (Item5)**

Chairs:

- H.E. Ms. Rabab Fatima, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh
- H.E. Mr. Robert Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada

Interactive discussion