Additional information on organizational arrangements to be considered during the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee for LDC V, 8 February 2021

Further to the letter dated 20 January 2021 from the Secretary-General of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on the convening of the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee for LDC V to be held on Monday, 8 February 2021, please find below additional information concerning the organizational arrangements to be considered during the session.

As reflected in the informal paper containing the annotations to the items of the provisional agenda, which was circulated along with the letter, under agenda item 4, the Preparatory Committee, at its organizational session, may wish to decide on matters relating to the work of the Preparatory Committee, including its rules of procedure and the agenda for its substantive sessions.

Rules of procedure to be applied to the meetings of the Preparatory Committee

In the past, with respect to the rules of procedure of the preparatory committees of conferences in the economic and social fields, the General Assembly decided that the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 and 1995/201, shall apply to the meetings of the Committee, as applicable. Previous examples of such decisions relating to the rules of procedure of preparatory committees by the Assembly include resolution 69/231 on the 2016 comprehensive high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, resolution 68/211 on the 2015 World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and resolution 68/270 on the 2014 Second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries. It is therefore recommended, in keeping with past practice, that the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the ECOSOC, as well as the supplementary arrangements mentioned above, apply, mutatis mutandis, to the Preparatory Committee for LDC V.

Draft provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee

In relation to the provisional agenda for the first session of the Preparatory Committee to be held from 24 to 28 May 2021, a draft prepared by the Secretariat, in keeping with traditional practice, is enclosed for consideration on 8 February. The draft provisional agenda contains the sequence of items to be considered at the first session of the Committee pursuant to the provisions contained in General Assembly resolutions 73/242, 74/232A, 73/232B and 75/227. It consists of standard items and once adopted by the Preparatory Committee, can be updated as necessary in the light of developments.

These decisions would serve to facilitate the organizational and substantive preparations for the Conference by the Preparatory Committee as mandated by the General Assembly.

In case of questions, please contact the Committee Secretariat (Emer Herity, email: herity@un.org or Ziad Mahmassani, email: mahmassani@un.org).