

STATEMENT

BY

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SECOND SECRETARY

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

AT THE

**FIFTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDC5)**

THURSDAY, 17TH MARCH 2022,

**UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
NEW YORK**

10:00AM

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Madam President,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Nigeria aligns itself with the statements delivered by Pakistan on behalf of the G-77 and China and Lesotho on behalf of the African Group. My delegation welcomes the convening of the first part of the Fifth High-level Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in New York, and the adoption of the Doha Programme of Action. My delegation would also like to congratulate the State of Qatar for assuming the Presidency of the Conference.

2. Least developed countries remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities. It is in this connection that the Government of Nigeria has consistently supported the implementation of relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014 – 2024, and reaffirm the importance of supporting the African Union’s Agenda 2063 and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, all of which are integral to the new Agenda.

Madam President,

3. My delegation affirms that the Doha Programme of Action is consistent with the 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Paris Agreement and the New Urban Agenda.

4. Nigeria agrees that achieving sustainable and climate-resilient development as envisaged under the Doha Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development agendas will come at a high cost for LDCs. While natural and climatic disasters have been a feature of life in LDCs for centuries, the effects of climate change are exacerbating the intensity and frequency of such disasters, posing an existential threat to these States. As a result, their climate vulnerabilities add up to large development challenges drawn from their structural characteristics. On this note, we reiterate

that investing in resilience-building initiatives will assist LDCs to achieve sustainable development.

5. Despite being a vital source of development financing for many LDCs, access to concessional resources from the international community remains a significant challenge. Development partners can play a better role by supporting approaches that will help these States to secure, channel and invest resources where they are most needed, including towards breaking the dependence on non-renewable sources of energy, enhancing infrastructure, managing debt and building resilience. Capacity building is also required in many developing countries in order to appropriately reduce disaster risks and in this regard, we encourage all relevant stakeholders to support these efforts.

6. Therefore, my delegation calls upon relevant stakeholders to continue to support LDCs in their efforts to implement national sustainable development strategies and programmes by incorporating the priorities and activities of LDCs into their relevant strategic and programmatic frameworks, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, at both the national and regional levels.

7. In conclusion, Nigeria reaffirms its commitment to strengthening cooperation and support towards LDCs in the context of sustainable development. We will continue to work closely with LDCs to improve early warning systems, preparedness, prevention, rebuilding and more, while ensuring that LDCs are able to take the lead in determining what is needed in their circumstances. We look forward to participating at the second part of the Fifth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to be held in Qatar.

8. I thank you.