

*"Sesquicentenario de la Epopeya Nacional 1864 - 1870"*



TETĀNGUÉRA NDIVE  
JOKUPYTŶRĀ  
Motenondécha  
Ministerio de  
RELACIONES  
EXTERIORES

 TETĀ REKUÁI  
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*Paraguay  
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*Misión Permanente de la República del Paraguay ante las Naciones Unidas  
Nueva York*

## **Organizational session of the Preparatory Committee for the LDC5**

8 February 2021

Her Excellency Ambassador Rabab Fatima, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh and Co-chair of the PrepCom,

His Excellency Ambassador Bob Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada and Co-chair of the PrepCom,

Mrs Fekita 'Utoikamanu, High Representative and Secretary-General of the LDC5 Conference,

Fellow members of the Bureau of the PrepCom,

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate Ambassador Fatima and Ambassador Rae on their election as Co-chairs of the Preparatory Committee for the LDC5 Conference. We trust in your able leadership to guide this process and rest assured that you can count on my delegation's full support.

I would also like to express my deep appreciation to Qatar for their generous offer to host the LDC5 and thank Ambassador Al-Thani for her briefing on the status of preparations for the Conference.

Distinguished Co-chairs,

We are pleased to join this Preparatory Committee to kickstart the process towards the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries. We are also pleased to take up the role of Rapporteur of the PrepCom and we look forward to working with our fellow members of the Bureau and with the Secretariat in this capacity.

As former Chair of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries, a group which half of its membership is comprised of Least Developed Countries, we

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are convinced of the solidarity and coordination that is needed among the groups of countries in special situations, which are the most vulnerable countries within the United Nations.

In this spirit of solidarity, my delegation will engage actively with a view to identify best practices and lessons learned, obstacles and constraints encountered, as well as new and emerging challenges and opportunities that need to be addressed through the lens of the special needs of the least developed countries in the coming decade.

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

The LDC5 Conference will take place at a very particular juncture. The pandemic is far from over and much of what can be accomplished through a new programme of action will depend on how we manage the great threat that the COVID-19 pandemic poses and its potential lingering effects during the first years of implementation of the new programme.

At this early stage in the process, we already know that export diversification, building productive capacity, resilient infrastructure, access to energy and dynamic international trade, among others, will remain key elements for the outcome.

Let us seize the opportunity that the next programme of action will provide, in coincidence with the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals, for concerted efforts and initiatives to support the achievement of the SDGs by the least developed countries.

Thank you very much for your attention.