

**Explanation of Vote  
by Turkey**

**(After the Vote)**

**First Part of the  
Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries**

**(17 March 2022, New York)**

Thank you Mr. President,

Let me start by congratulating you on your election as the President of the Conference and expressing our best wishes for your success.

I wish to assure you of the full support of my delegation in the discharge of your duties.

As the host of the LDC-IV Conference, a Bureau member of the LDC-V Preparatory Committee and Co-chair of the Group of Friends of LDCs, Turkey welcomes the adoption of the Doha Programme of Action.

We would like to extend our thanks to Bangladesh and Canada as Co-Chairs of the LDC-V PrepCom, entire PrepCom Bureau and OHRLLS as well as all distinguished delegates that have charted an action-oriented plan for LDCs for the coming decade.

In fact, in 2011, the Istanbul Program of Action put forward an ambitious vision to promote sustainable and inclusive development of LDCs. Over the past decade, LDCs have achieved some progress.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified their pre-existing vulnerabilities and has severely affected their ability to achieve the implementation of SDGs by 2030.

Doha Programme of Action, which was built on the Istanbul Program of Action, will be our renewed collective commitment to finding lasting solutions to the multiple and complex challenges of LDCs.

We believe, from now on, we should focus on how we can deliver these commitments on the ground, in the most realistic, timely and ambitious manner.

It is only through sincere support of international community, LDCs can respond to the impact of COVID-19, graduate from LDCs status and attain SDGs.

Mr. President,

LDCs remain a development cooperation priority for Turkey.

Since the LDC-IV Conference in Istanbul, we have been supporting LDCs in their efforts to enable the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action.

Investing in the development of science, technology and innovation in LDCs is key to achieving SDGs.

The UN Technology Bank, which became operational in 2018 in Turkey, plays a critical role for filling the technology gap in LDCs. In the context of the current pandemic, the work of the Bank is even more vital than ever.

Turkey is proud to work with LDCs in assisting them with technological upgrading.

In February this year, as the major donor of UN Technology Bank, Turkey has renewed its financial commitment to the Bank to support its activities for the next five years.

Towards implementing the Doha Program of Action, we warmly encourage countries to consider allocating necessary financial resources to the Bank to ensure it can support LDCs.

UN Capital Development Fund, as the UN's catalytic financing entity for LDCs, needs our further attention as well. Our modest contribution can make a significant impact on Fund's work at the country level.

Needles to say, Turkey will continue to be a reliable partner of LDCs.

Before concluding Mr. President, I wish You every success for the second part of the Conference to be held in Doha in 2023.

Thank you.