

**Meeting of the revitalized Group of Friends of LLDCs
23 November 2022, 0900 hrs, CR 11, UNHQ**

**Closing remarks by Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj
Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations**

Excellencies, Friends,

Thank you very much for your valuable comments and insights.

Before I close the meeting, I would like to briefly highlight the road ahead, in terms of next steps.

The resolution to be adopted today, 23 November, in the Second Committee outlines the following preparatory steps towards the Third Conference of Landlocked Developing Countries:

(i) Three regional preparatory meetings will be held over the course of 2023:

- o Africa region
- o Euro Asia region
- o Latin America region.

(ii) The Bureau of the Intergovernmental preparatory committee (PrepCom) will be formed by mid-2023.

(iii) The President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council will be asked to organize a half-day dedicated thematic event in the third quarter of 2023 to provide substantive input to the Conference.

(iv) Two sessions of the PrepCom will be held in New York towards the end of 2023 and/or early in 2024.

As for the Group of Friends, the Co-chairs aim to organize the next meeting of the group in spring 2023 following the LDC 5 conference. The Secretariat has informed us that a webpage for the Group of Friends has been set up, and can be found on the LLDCs page of the UN website. Please watch that space for regular updates.

I thank you all once again for making the time to be here. This meeting is adjourned.