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**Closing Video Message by**

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Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing  
States**

**at**

**Training Workshop for Policy Makers from LLDCs and Transit Countries,  
Strengthening Capacity in Developing Bankable Transport Infrastructure  
Projects for Enhanced Connectivity in Asia Region**

***20 May 2021***

Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to address this closing session. Thank you all for participating in this important training workshop.

I would like to express our deep appreciation to the resource persons and representatives of UNESCAP, UNCTAD, UNECE, UNOPS, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank, the Ministry of Transport of China as well as the International Centre for Transport Diplomacy for sharing important knowledge on developing bankable transport infrastructure projects for enhanced connectivity.

I am pleased with the great partnership between our Offices and look forward to continuing working together to promote transport connectivity for landlocked developing countries and transit countries.

I thank all the participants who have attended the training, who have raised pertinent questions and shared experiences on enhancing transport connectivity in your countries.

I would like to congratulate all of you for your dedication and active engagement in the learning experience.

Indeed, I have heard a lot of good feedback.

I understand that your learning experience covered a wide breadth of topics from the key steps involved in project preparation to how to secure funding for the projects, to upstream soft infrastructure issues such as policies, institutions, legislation and regulatory approaches and the crucial role of capacity building.

I also understand that the training showcased a wide variety of case study examples to illustrate the key points in developing bankable infrastructure projects, the challenges involved and how they were dealt with.

I also understand that there was discussion on mobilization of resources to fund transport infrastructure projects including the important role of government; multi-lateral development banks; official development assistance; the innovative sources of financing that are available; and how to make public-private-partnerships work for transport infrastructure projects.

I am informed about the numerous initiatives to support transport connectivity that were presented and discussed and the importance of developing corridors to promote transport connectivity and overall sustainable development.

I am also informed that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on transport connectivity and some responses to support sustainable recovery were discussed.

Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

You all have worked hard. I hope you will be able to apply what you have learnt in your work. I also hope that we will continue to work together with our partners to support the capacity needs of landlocked and transit countries in promoting transport connectivity.

Later this year, we plan to establish a community of practice in the context of the LLDC national focal points network.

Again, later in the year, we also plan to organize another training.

I wish to encourage you to complete the evaluation of this training workshop that will be shared with you today as it shall help us shape our future capacity building activities.

In concluding my remarks, I would like to thank all of you once again for your engagement.

My appreciation also goes to the interpreters for their important support to our training workshop.

I want to thank the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Sub-Fund of the United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund for supporting this training workshop.

I look forward to continue working closely with you to advance the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you.