

draft as of 16 September 2022

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Mukhtar Tileuberdi, Deputy Prime Minister –
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the 21st Meeting
of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Landlocked Developing Countries
(LLDCs)**

New York, 22 September 2022, 10.00-13.00, ECOSOC Chamber

Time limit: 4 minutes

**Mr. President of the General Assembly,
Madam President of ECOSOC,
Mr. Chair, Minister Lemogang Kwape (Botswana),
Madam Deputy Secretary-General,
Madam Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for LDCs, LLDCs
and SIDS,
Distinguished colleagues,
Dear participants,**

It is my great honour to address the Annual LLDC Ministerial meeting in the margins of the High-level week of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly.

From the outset, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Her Excellency Madam Rabab Fatima with the recent assumption of her duties as the new High Representative for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS.

Indeed, it is a great challenge for you to take the lead of the UN-OHRLLS having the UN and global agenda dominated by COVID-19 pandemic, aggravated by the recent geopolitical turmoil. This requires from all of us the urgent and efficient actions for the robust and just recovery and economic growth.

The developing countries in special situations like LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS comprise 91 UN Member States in total. This is almost half of the entire UN membership. It only proves that the true economic recovery and sustainable development in the world is impossible without tackling the challenges pertinent to these three groups of countries.

Dear colleagues,

We are at a crucial juncture as we approach the last two years of the Vienna Programme of Action and the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda. The full and effective

implementation of all six priority areas of the VPoA is critical to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Kazakhstan is concerned with the limited progress achieved in LLDCs as highlighted in the 2022 Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the VPoA.

Now, we are approaching the Third UN Conference on LLDCs to take place in 2024 as agreed by the General Assembly last December.

In this vein, it is clear that due to many negative drawbacks, LLDCs are quite far from the full implementation of the Programme.

We need to take this into consideration while drafting the new Programme of Action to be adopted at the Third UN Conference. It should become the roadmap for our common sustainable development given the geographical limits of landlockedness.

It is with this reason we advocated for and eventually adopted the special Roadmap for the Accelerated Implementation of the VPoA two years ago during the chairmanship of Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan believes that having a Roadmap for accelerated implementation of the VPoA is crucial to ensure visible results on the ground.

Today, we adopt the Ministerial Declaration which welcomes the already achieved progress under the Roadmap.

In this light, Kazakhstan proposes to extend the Roadmap till the end of the next Programme of Action to be adopted in 2024. It is highly important that we continue with the mapping of more than 430 important activities in one living document.

Ladies and gentlemen,

To conclude, I would like to underscore that as countries facing specific challenges imposed by our common geographical condition, we must remember that we are stronger only together.

Thus, we must continue to act in unity to garner greater international support for our efforts to achieve our development goals and, in particular, to promote a sustainable recovery in the years going forward.

I thank you.
