REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

STATEMENT BY HON. OKELLO HENRY ORYEM, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA AT THE ANNUAL MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF LAND LOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (LLDCS)

THEME:
"MIDTERM REVIEW OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION: RENEWED STRENGTH TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION AND TRANSFORMATION IN LLDCs"

25ᵀᴴ SEPTEMBER 2019, 3.00 – 5.00PM, CONFERENCE ROOM 5

Distinguished Chairperson

Hon. Ministers

Ladies and Gentlemen

The group of Land Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs) has been recognized by the UN system as one of the most vulnerable groups of countries in special situations due to their unique needs and challenges – for which they need renewed strength to meet the set targets.

Uganda reiterates its continued support to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action 2014-2024, which is in line with Uganda's development agenda as enshrined in the National Development Plan 2015-2020, as part of the Uganda Vision 2040.

Uganda has made progress in the implementation of the programme through export diversification and investment in infrastructure to enhance the country's productive capacity and competitiveness. The Government has also prioritized increased access to affordable electricity in order to reduce the cost of production and promote private investment.

At regional level, progress has been made in simplifying and modernizing transit procedures with the introduction of the Regional Electronic Cargo Tracking System that serves Uganda, Kenya and Rwanda, which reduces the transit time. Also, the recent introduction of the East African Passport will promote free movement of persons and factors of production in the region.

In addition, Uganda was one of the first countries to sign and adopt the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) that created a single continental market for goods and services for better coordination of trade liberalization and facilitation within Africa.

My delegation looks forward to the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration and its full implementation.

Thank you for your attention