17 June 2021

Excellency,

Sequel to our letters dated 19 May 2021, and 10 June 2021, circulating the provisional programme for the half-day joint thematic event of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to be held on Friday, 18 June 2021, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall, we have the honour to enclose herewith the final programme.

The joint thematic event will include an opening segment, a fireside chat segment and a high-level plenary segment. In view of the limited time available for the plenary segment, pre-recorded video statements will be played without introductions by the representatives physically present in the General Assembly Hall.

Kindly note that the time limit for statements will be 3-5 minutes for all speakers. The texts of the statements of those on the list that are not delivered by the end of the meeting will be posted on “eStatements” in the Journal of the United Nations. In this regard, delegations are encouraged to send their statements to estatements@un.org to facilitate interpretation and for posting on "eStatements”.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Volkan BOZKIR
President of the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly

Munir Akram
President of the Economic and Social Council at its 2021 session

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
PROGRAMME
Joint Thematic Event of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council
Diversifying the Financing Toolbox to Enhance Investment in Least Developed Countries
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 18 June 2021, General Assembly Hall

10:00am-10:30am

OPENING SEGMENT

- H.E. Mr. Volkan BOZKIR, President of the General Assembly
- H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council
- H.E. Mr. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General
- H.E. Mr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi and Minister for Defense
- H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar (Host of the fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries)
- Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

10:30am-11.00am

FIRESIDE CHAT

Moderator – Ms. Melissa Fleming, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications

1. Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme
2. Ms. Carmen M. Reinhart, Vice President and Chief Economist, World Bank Group
3. Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
4. Ms. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

- Strengthening national and global financing mechanisms to ensure a smart and modern risk-informed and resilient financing toolbox for LDCs aiming at accelerated
implementation of the SDGs, while building back better from the pandemic and resilience against future crises.
- Engagement with various stakeholders including governments, IFIs, private sector, foundations and other stakeholders in addressing the new and emerging challenges and seizing the opportunities offered by innovative financing for SDGs.
- Investing in sustainable infrastructure as a tool to foster growth, address inequality and build resilience against shocks.

**STATEMENTS**

**Group of Least Developed Countries:**
- Rt. Hon Dr. Teuea Toatu, Vice President and Minister for Finance and Economic Development of Kiribati [pre-recorded video message]
- H.E. Mr. Raghubir Mahaseth, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal [pre-recorded video message]
- H.E. Mr. Abdul Momen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh [in-person]
- H.E. Mr. Osman Saleh Mohammed, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Eritrea [pre-recorded video message]
- H.E Dr. Francis Mustapha Kai-Kai, Minister of Planning and Economic Development of the Republic of Sierra Leone [pre-recorded video message]

**African States:**
- H.E Mr. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates [pre-recorded video message]
- H.E. Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations
- H.E. Mr. Sofiane Mimouni, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations.

**Eastern European States:**
- H. E. Mrs. Marie Chatardová, Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations
- H. E. Mr. Dmitry Chumakov, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations
**Latin American and Caribbean States:**
- H.E. Mr. Hugo Francisco Rivera Fernandez, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Economics and International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic [pre-recorded video message]
- H.E. Mr. Ronaldo Costa Filho, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations
- H.E. Ambassador Julio César ARRIOLA, Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations

**Western European and other States:**
- H.E. Mr. Francisco Andre, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Portugal [pre-recorded video message]
- H.E. Mr. Feridun Hadi Sinirlioğlu, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations.

**Observers:**
- Mr. Jeffrey Schlagenhauf, Deputy Secretary General, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- Dr. Ismahane Elouafi, Chief Scientist, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

**Civil Society Organizations:**
- Mr. Demba Dembele, Chair of the Board, LDC Watch
- Mr. John Frank, Vice President, UN Affairs, Microsoft [in-person]
- Ms. Myesha Maliha Binte Mamun, Secretary General of Bangladesh Medical Students’ Society.

Video from OHRLLS “Road to LDC5”