



PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

25 March 2022

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 20 October 2021, I have the honour to share the summary of the **third meeting of my Board of Advisers on Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**, which was held at United Nations Headquarters on **10 March 2022**.

The third meeting of the Board focused on the theme ***'Rebuilding Sustainably in LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS'***. For the LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated existing vulnerabilities and inequalities. The pandemic has also reinforced the fact that recovery cannot be 'business as usual' – that recovery efforts must be designed to build back better, stronger, greener and bluer. In this context, the discussions focused on how the United Nations system can support the countries in special situations in enhancing capacity for economic and export diversification, and the kind of support required. The Board also discussed how the General Assembly's convening power and comparative advantages can be leveraged to support advocacy for sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, in the context of debt sustainability and recovery of the tourism sector.

For further information pertaining to the Board of Advisers, your office may contact Mr. Shaoxuan Liu, Adviser on Sustainable Development (shaoxuan.liu@un.org) at my office.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Abdulla SHAHID', is written over a horizontal line.

Abdulla SHAHID

To all Permanent Representatives
And Permanent Observers
to the United Nations