



2ND UN CONFERENCE
ON LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
VIENNA · NOVEMBER 2014

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



EUROPE
INTEGRATION
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
FEDERAL MINISTRY
REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA



United Nations Office of the High Representative for
Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries
and Small Island Developing States

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Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya

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Message from the Secretary-General of the Conference Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya

On behalf of the United Nations, I would like to join the Government of Austria in welcoming all of you to Vienna – one of Europe's exquisite and culturally rich cities. Once home to leading lights such as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Sigmund Freud and Gustav Klimt, Austria continues to be one of the staunch multilateralists in the comity of nations. It is therefore fitting that the international community should convene here to endorse a common framework to guide the sustainable development of the world's 32 landlocked developing countries (LLDCs).

Since 2012 the United Nations has collaborated closely with Member States to take stock of the commitments made in 2003 in Kazakhstan when the international community adopted the Almaty Programme of Action. Over the past decade a lot has been achieved. Collectively, LLDCs have recorded an uptick in economic growth and foreign direct investment. Several LLDCs have improved their ability to participate in international trade and exports have increased substantially in the last ten years albeit unevenly. With the support of development partners, they have made progress in improving social, economic opportunities for local populations.

The journey however remains incomplete. Geography, lengthy transit procedures, weak infrastructure and new and emerging challenges, especially the deleterious impacts of climate change, have colluded to render these countries increasingly vulnerable. The net result is that compared to their maritime neighbours, the vast majority of landlocked developing countries continue to occupy the bottom rung of the development ladder, unable to reap the full benefits of globalization.

Over the next three days, we will have an invaluable opportunity to engage with a variety of stakeholders and institutions. I encourage all of you to actively contribute to these discussions with innovative ideas and concrete solutions in order to deliver a holistic, forward-looking and results-oriented outcome that has a new generation of improved support measures to assist in the development of landlocked developing countries.

On behalf of the United Nations, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the host country and the Government of Austria for their warm hospitality and generous support toward the staging of this historic gathering in Vienna.

I wish you success in your deliberations.

Monday, 3 November

10:00-13:00

Venue:
M-Plenary

Opening Plenary Meeting

Opening of the Conference

Election of the President of the Conference

Adoption of the Agenda and Programme of Work

Adoption of the Rules of Procedure

Election of Other Officers

Establishment of the Committee of the Whole

Credentials of Representatives to the Conference

Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

Report of the Credentials Committee

Statement by the President of the Conference

Monday, 3 November

Statements

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Heinz Fischer, President of Austria

H.E. Mr. Sam Kutesa, President of the General Assembly

H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, President of ECOSOC

H.E. Mr. Guy Scott, Vice-President of Republic of Zambia
and Chair of the Group of LLDCs

H.E. Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, Secretary-General of the
Conference

Mr. Neven Mimica, European Commission Development
Commissioner

Ms. Helen Clark, Chair of the United Nations Development Group

Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, Director-General of World Trade
Organization

Mr. Kunio Mikuriya, Secretary-General of World Customs
Organization

General Exchange of Views

13:15-14:45 Lunch

15:00-18:00 **Parallel Events**

Second Intergovernmental Plenary Meeting

Venue: M-Plenary

Committee of the Whole (closed meeting)

Venue: M-2

High-Level Interactive Thematic Round Table: Achieving Structural Transformation of LLDC Economies

Venue: Boardroom A

Intergovernmental Meetings and High-Level Interactive Thematic Round Tables

Intergovernmental Meetings and High-Level Interactive Thematic Round Tables

Tuesday, 4 November

10:00-13:00

Parallel Events

Third Intergovernmental Plenary

Venue: M-Plenary

Committee of the Whole (closed meeting)

Venue: M-2

High-Level Interactive Thematic Round Table: Regional Integration and Transit Cooperation

Venue: Boardroom A

13:15-14:45

Lunch

15:00-18:00

Parallel Events

Fourth Intergovernmental Plenary

Venue: M-Plenary

Committee of the Whole (closed meeting)

Venue: M-2

High-Level Interactive Thematic Round Table: LLDC Priorities in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Venue: Boardroom A

Wednesday, 5 November

10:00-13:00

Parallel Events

Fifth Intergovernmental Plenary

Venue: M-Plenary

Committee of the Whole (closed meeting)

Venue: M-2

High-Level Interactive Thematic Round Table: Harnessing International Trade and Investment Opportunities for LLDCs Development

Boardroom A

13:15-14:45

Lunch

15:00-18:00

Closing Ceremony

Venue: M-Plenary

Business and Investment Forum

The Business and Investment Forum is organized as an integral part of the 2nd United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries. The event will bring together business leaders, government officials from LLDCs and transit countries, as well as development partners and senior officials from major international organizations, to exchange views on the challenges and opportunities faced by LLDCs and to discuss possible partnerships and strategies in regards to the role of the private sector in the overall sustainable development of LLDCs. The discussions should be considered in the context of the emerging post-2015 development agenda where the private sector is expected to play a key role in successfully implementing anticipated sustainable development goals. The event also aims to leverage the inspiration and insights from attendees in order to continue strengthening the contribution of business and investors towards implementing a new Programme of Action for LLDCs.



Business and Investment Forum

Tuesday, 4 November

10:15-10:45

Opening Ceremony

Venue: M-3

Statement by Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya

Secretary-General of the Conference

Statement by Dr. Louise Kantrow

International Chamber of Commerce Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Statement by Mr. Ole Hansen

Head of UN Global Compact LEAD

11:00-12:30

PARALLEL INTERACTIVE THEMATIC SESSIONS

Creating the Right Business Enabling Environment through Good Governance and Rule of Law

This session focuses on the role of good governance and the rule of law in creating an enabling environment for Governments, businesses and civil society to collaboratively address the structural and procedural challenges faced by LLDCs and transit countries.

Venue: M-3

The Role of the Private Sector in Developing Transit Transport, Infrastructure and ICT

This session will focus on how the private sector could play a key role through public-private partnerships in developing transit transport, infrastructure and ICTs in LLDCs.

Venue: M-7

Tuesday, 4 November

13:15-14:45

HIGH-LEVEL LUNCHEON-INVITATION ONLY

Theme: Business Solutions to Development Challenges

Keynote Remarks

United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon

Venue: Sky Lounge of Austrian Chamber of Commerce
Transportation to be provided for invitees

15:15-16:45

PARALLEL INTERACTIVE THEMATIC SESSIONS

Turning Commodity Dependence into Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Economic Growth for LLDCs

This session focuses on how the private commodity sector can drive economic growth in LLDCs contributing to alleviating poverty and reducing inequality. The session will also examine the role commodity exchanges can play in fostering economic inclusiveness in LLDCs.

Venue: M-7

Sustainable and Responsible Investments

This session will explore ways to direct financial investments toward LLDCs, and ensure that environmental, social and governance performance standards are met, in order to increase levels of foreign direct investment to LLDCs and improve their international economic interdependence.

Venue: M-3

Tuesday, 4 November

17:00-17.30

Closing

Representatives from the thematic sessions will be invited to report back on main findings.

Statement by Mr. Martin Sadjik

President of ECOSOC and Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations

Venue: M-3

Side Events

Monday, 3 November

- 13:15-14:45 **Trade and Human Development in Landlocked Developing Countries**
Organizer: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Venue: M-6
- 13:15-14:45 **Economic Diversification in Asian Landlocked Developing Countries: Prospects and Challenges**
Organizer: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP)
Venue: M-OE79
- 13:15-14:45 **Sustainable energy for Landlocked Developing Countries and “Future Energy” Astana 2017 Expo**
Organizers: Republic of Kazakhstan • United Nations Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) • Sustainable Energy For All (SE4ALL) • UN-Women
Venue: M-4
- 13:15-14:45 **Addressing Connectivity Challenges in Landlocked Developing States**
Organizer: International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
Venue: M-OE100
- 13:15-14:30 **Enhancing Landlocked Developing Countries’ Competitiveness: Public/Private Partnerships on Vocational Training**
Organizer: Austria
Venue: M-5

Side Events

Tuesday, 4 November

- 08:15-09:45 **Aid for Trade and Regional Integration as Means for Accelerating LLDC Development**
Organizers: La Fondation pour les Études et Recherches sur le Développement International (FERDI) • International Trade Centre (ITC)
Venue: M-6
- 08:15-09:45 **Launch of a Joint Publication on Improving Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation for Greater Integration of LLDCs into World Markets**
Organizers: United Nations Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) • World Bank
Venue: M-OE79
- 08:15-09:45 **Climate-Smart Agriculture**
Organizer: Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
Venue: M-4
- 08:15-09:45 **International Think Tank on LLDCs**
Launch of joint ITT-LLDC and OHRLLS publication on “WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation and Implications for Landlocked Developing Countries”
Organizer: International Think Tank on LLDCs
Venue: M-OE100

Side Events

Tuesday, 4 November

- 13:15-14:45 **Border Crossing Facilitation: The Facilitation Potential of “Carnet” Conventions**
Organizer: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
Venue: M-4
- 13:15-14:45 **Harvesting Benefits of Trade Facilitation for LLDCs**
Organizer: UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
• World Trade Organization (WTO)
Venue: M-5
- 13:15-14:45 **Regional Coherence and South-South Cooperation to Promote Sustainable Energy Investments, Markets and Industries in LLDCs**
Organizers: Austria • United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Venue: M-OE100
- 13:15-14:45 **Achieving the Future Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Labour Migration**
Organizer: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
Venue: M-OE79
- 13:15 - 14:45 **Linking African LLDCs’ Development with the Africa’s Transformative Agenda**
Organizers: United Nations Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) • UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)
Venue: M-OE100

Side Events

Wednesday, 5 November

- 08:15-09:45 **Global Partnership for Sustainable Transport**
Organizer: International Road Transport Union (IRU)
Venue: M-4
- 08:15-09:45 **Improving National Preparedness for Climate Change: Mainstreaming and Adaptation in LLDCs**
Organizer: Government of Zambia
Venue: M-5
- 13:15-14:45 **Briefing to Member States on the Preparations for UNGASS Special Session on the World Drug Problem to be Held in 2016**
Organizer: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Venue: M-4
- 13:15-14:45 **Unlocking the Trade Potential of Landlocked LDCs: The Role of the EIF Partnership**
Organizer: Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)
Venue: M-6
- 13:15-14:45 **Linking LLDCs to Regional Infrastructure Networks**
Organizers: ESCAP • ECA • ECLAC • ECE
Venue: M-5
- 13:15-14:45 **Mountains and the Post-2015 Development Agenda/ Sustainable Development Goals**
Organizers: Austria • United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Venue: M-OE79

Background

In resolution 66/214 of 26 March 2012, the United Nations General Assembly decided to convene the Second United Nations Conference on the Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC2). The Conference is only the second major meeting on development challenges facing the world's 32 LLDCs. In resolution 68/270 of May 2014 the United Nations General Assembly welcomed and accepted the Republic of Austria's offer to host the global gathering from 3 to 5 November 2014 in Vienna.

The Second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries is expected to:

- **Comprehensively assess the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action**-a 10 year action-plan agreed to in Almaty, Kazakhstan in 2003;
- Identify **effective international, regional, sub-regional and national policies** in the area of international trade and transit transport cooperation;
- Review the current situation of transit transport systems in light of **new and emerging challenges**, partnerships and opportunities, and the means to address them;
- **Reaffirm the global commitment** to addressing the special development needs of and the challenges faced by the landlocked developing countries as called for at major United Nations conferences and summits;
- **Mobilize international support and action** by and in favour of the landlocked developing countries; and **formulate and adopt a renewed development partnership framework for the next decade.**

A new Programme of Action for LLDCs is expected to emerge from the Conference which will determine the development paradigm for years to come. This is an historic opportunity for the international community to formulate an ambitious, results-oriented strategy to unlock their potential to generate higher levels of social and economic development and achieve fuller integration into the global economy.

The 32 LLDCs

Landlocked Developing Countries face significant challenges associated with their geographical location and in areas such as trade, transport and infrastructure. They are reliant on transit routes provided by neighbouring countries and often have to cover vast distances to facilitate import and export. This geographic disadvantage is compounded by their remoteness from major international markets, cumbersome transit procedures, high transport and transaction costs and weak transport infrastructure. Many of these countries have small domestic markets that are highly vulnerable to external shocks. These obstacles affect their economic growth and have major ramifications for social and environmental aspects of development, including poverty reduction and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals.

Since the adoption of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2003, the LLDCs as a group have improved their share of world trade over the past decade-and by that, their economic growth. Further gains have been made in net primary school enrolment, gender equality in primary education, the representation of women in decision-making, and in stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS.

But despite this progress challenges remain. LLDCs have limited productive capacities and structural weaknesses which impede their growth prospects and constrain their ability to produce efficiently and competitively. They heavily rely on natural resource-based commodities thereby making them highly vulnerable to commodity price fluctuations. LLDCs are also still experiencing high transport and trade transaction costs. According to the 2013 UN Secretary-General's Report on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, the trade volume of the landlocked developing countries was just 61 per cent of the trade volume of coastal countries, while the transport costs of the LLDCs were 45 per cent higher than those of a representative coastal economy. Landlockedness has an enormous negative impact on the overall development of LLDCs. It is estimated that the level of development in LLDCs is, on average, 20 per cent lower than what it would have been, were these countries not landlocked.

