

**Statement
Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of
Indonesia**

**H.E. Rachmat Budiman
At the 2nd United Nations Conference on
Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs)**

Vienna, 3-5 November 2014

**Mr. President,
Secretary General of the LLDC Conference,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,**

At the outset, my delegation would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Austria for hosting the 2nd United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries.

I would also like to congratulate Minister Sebastian Kurz for his election as the President of this Conference. Similar congratulations also go to all members of the Bureau. Rest assure of my delegation's full support and cooperation throughout this important conference.

I also would like to use this opportunity to extend my deepest condolences to the people and government of Zambia on the sad occasion of the demise of the President of Zambia, Michael Zata. This is an unfortunate loss for the conference since the late President was one of leading voices of this LLDC platform.

Mr. President,

Indonesia associates itself with the statement made by the Plurinational State of Bolivia on behalf of G-77 and China. In addition, we would like to add the following comments in our national capacity.

It is the consensus of the international community that the landlocked developing countries should be assisted in achieving their development objectives.

Hence, the Almaty Programme of Action was adopted to support LLDCs. It was to serve as the blueprint to support the LLDCs in accomplishing the fundamental improvements needed to help them overcome their special difficulties.

Since the adoption of the Almaty Programme of Action, landlocked developing countries, with the support of development partners, have achieved certain progress.

Indonesia takes note that progress has been made in upgrading and expanding the road transport infrastructure in some LLDC regions. Some progress has also been achieved in regulatory frameworks applicable to transit transport and trade to eliminate inefficiencies and non-physical barriers to cross-border transport.

Yet, we have also heard from the LLDCs that they continue to face a great number of challenges, as progress has remained slow for most of the critical areas, which is exacerbated by the negative effects of climate change. Among others, geographical factors, including remoteness from major markets and the high cost of exports and imports, are some of the major impediments that the landlocked developing countries have highlighted.

Given the timeliness of this meeting, as it takes place after the development related high-level meetings held during the opening of the 69th General Assembly and the 2015 Development Summit, we urge the Conference to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action.

We should use this Conference as a platform to comprehensively prioritize future cooperation and follow-up on relevant commitments linking the interest of LLDCs, transit countries, and development partners.

In this connection, my delegation would like to emphasize the following points for the Conference.

First, it is essential to reaffirm the political commitment to support the land-locked developing countries, and firmly embed their specific needs, conditions and challenges in the international development agenda.

Second, the reaffirmation of our political commitment should translate to concrete cooperation. Existing mechanisms should be strengthened, while new ones could be explored further.

The international community should continue to strengthen regional and sub-regional cooperation, policy coordination and information sharing. Meanwhile, the Office of the High Representative should also continue to promote cooperation and coordination between relevant UN agencies as well as international organizations.

Third, stress the need to meet ODA commitments to assist LLDCs under a multi-stakeholder framework. ODA represents a crucial factor in efforts to help landlocked developing countries break out of their development difficulties. While last year's ODA commitments reached a record high, the overall picture is that it has been declining. Hence, the commitment to allocate 0.7 percent of gross national income to ODA should be expeditiously translated into action. The Third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in Addis Ababa in July 2015 will be an important platform to revitalize ODA commitments.

Mr. President,

As an aspiring maritime nation, Indonesia understands the importance of transportation and transit access. Indonesia recognizes that the lack of adequate access to the sea creates formidable obstacles for the development process for LLDCs, especially with regard to seaborne trade. Therefore, a constructive deliberation

Check against delivery

throughout the conference is crucially needed to build common understanding and concerted efforts that meet the interests of LLDCs, transit countries and development partners once for all.

Inspired by the example of South-South cooperation and solidarity, Indonesia is committed to lend its full support for the success of the Conference and the processes that will support the LLDCs to find their way out of their particular needs and challenges. In this regard, we can also consider ASEAN's efforts in helping its members that face geographical challenges, in particular by strengthening physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity.

I thank you.
