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**PERMANENT MISSION OF  
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VIENNA**

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**STATEMENT BY H.E.MR.GANKHUYAG DAMBA,  
VICE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION OF  
MONGOLIA AT THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
ON LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

*/Vienna, 3-5 November 2014/*

Mr. President of the Conference,  
Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki Moon,  
President of ECOSOC Martin Sajdik,  
Under-Secretary General Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me begin by expressing my delegation's warm gratitude to the Government of Austria for hosting the 10-year Conference in the beautiful city of Vienna and the gracious hospitality extended to all of us.

I thank the Under-Secretary General Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya and his team for their dedication and excellent preparatory efforts and activities to make happen this indeed historic event.

Taking this moment, I wish also to congratulate Your Excellency on your election as President of the Vienna Conference and express my earnest hope that your able stewardship will lead to a successful conclusion of the Conference. You may rest assured of my delegation's full support and cooperation in discharging your responsible duties.

This is an opportune moment for us to assess the implementation of the Almaty Program, identify emerging challenges faced by the LLDCs and reaffirm our quest for a renewed development partnership framework for the next decade.

Mr. President,

The Almaty Program of Action has been instrumental in raising global awareness of special needs of LLDCs and produced notable outcome to enhance their national business environment, promote competitiveness, market access integration and addressed crucial issues in cooperation with transit developing countries and with support from development partners. I am confident that, based on the achievements and lessons learned from the Almaty Program of Actions, we will set here in Vienna a meaningful roadmap to advance the cause of LLDCs which would significantly contribute to the formulation and implementation of the next global development agenda.

Since the adoption of the Almaty Program, Mongolia experienced fast economic growth and increased trade though it wasn't necessarily translated into speedy solution of urgent development issues due to the landlockedness and market access restrictions.

We have been working with our two neighboring transit powers on some key issues, including modernizing a railway infrastructure, strengthening the Mongolian transport and logistics system, reducing freight costs and increasing trade volumes. Last September the President of Mongolia Ts.Elbegdorj initiated a first ever summit of the three neighboring countries Mongolia, China and Russia in Dushanbe whereby the leaders discussed and stressed the importance of boosting connectivity of transportation infrastructure and cross-border transport. We continue to work at the regional and international levels through participating in the project on Euro-Asian Transport Links and signing international conventions and inter-governmental agreements on transportation, such as the Agreement on the Asian Highway Network and the Agreement on Dry Port.

Mongolia in close cooperation with UN and partners has successfully organized and participated in such important international events as the High Level

ESCAP Policy Dialogue in 2011, the LLDCs Trade Ministers Meeting in 2007, the High Level International Workshop on WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation: Implications for LLDCs in 2014.

Mongolia initiated the establishment of an International Think Tank for LLDCs with the overall goal to use top-quality research and advocacy to improve the ability of landlocked developing countries to build capacity in order to benefit from the international trade including WTO negotiations, with the ultimate aim of raising human development and reducing poverty.

Mongolia remains vulnerable to external shocks given its limited export diversification, poor developed productive capacities, lack of export competitiveness and high transport and transit costs. It is worth to mention again that our experience showed that the high growth rate is not necessarily enabled everyone to participate in and benefit from economic opportunities and effective social policies. Policies must make the economic growth to be translated into greater income generation for the general population. Furthermore, the structural vulnerabilities have exposed to the new emerging issues, such as climate change, desertification and land degradation.

Mr. President,

It is our sincere belief that the new program of action will be an ambitious and result-oriented new partnership framework providing an important foundation for the international community to give due consideration to the special needs and challenges of LLDCs.

Since the adoption of Almaty Program of Action, the world as well as LLDCs have dramatically changed, and new and on-going challenges have emerged. In this regard, we hope that the new program of action will give a fresh impetus to promote structural and economic transformation capable of reducing the negative impact of geographical disadvantages and external shocks.

We also recognize that development assistance remains vital in enabling LLDCs to help them overcome their vulnerabilities and build resilience.

Regional economic integration at the sub-regional, regional and broader levels can facilitate LLDCs integration into the global trading system in order to improve their competitiveness, increase the size of markets, and enhance regional connectivity and intra-regional trade.

We strongly view that there is a need to explore best practices of LLDCs, disseminate their findings among LLDCs, to explain the constraints to the international community and to identify right policy recommendations for enabling LLDCs to participate in the global integration. Henceforth, I would like once again to urge the fellow landlocked developing countries to consider signing and ratifying the Multilateral Agreement on the Establishment of the International Think Tank for the LLDCs at the earliest convenience. I wish to invite the UN system organizations, the World Bank, regional development banks and other interested parties to support the International Think Tank for LLDCs.

Mr. President,

My Government views that the interests of LLDCs should be clearly integrated in the Post-2015 development agenda as we all look forward to a transformative development framework. There should be a strong link between the outcome of the Vienna Conference and the Post 2015 development agenda with a view of achieving the objectives of LLDCs with a close global partnership.

It is our earnest belief that the Vienna Conference will be success and becoming a substantive impetus to sustainability and building resilience for the LLDCs in the upcoming decade.

Thank you for your attention.