WHAT IS THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?

The Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) charts a plan for the sustainable economic and social development of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) for the Decade 2014-2024. It aims to address the special development needs and challenges of LLDCs stemming from landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints of landlockedness through specific actions in six priority areas:

Fundamental Transit policy issues; Infrastructure development and maintenance; International trade and trade facilitation; Regional integration and cooperation; Structural economic transformation; Means of implementation.

THE PREPARATORY PROCESS FOR THE MIDTERM REVIEW OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION 2019

Preparations for the Midterm Review are taking place at national, regional and global levels.

- **NATIONAL PREPARATIONS**

  The LLDCs are preparing national reports on the implementation of the VPoA. National reports provide critical input into the regional reviews and the global preparations.

- **REGIONAL REVIEWS**

  Three regional review meetings (Euro-Asia, Africa and Latin America regions) are taking place in the first half of 2019. UN Regional Commissions (ESCAP and ECE, ECA, ECLAC) coordinate the regional reviews, in cooperation with UN-OHRLLS.

  - *Africa Regional Review, 18-19 March 2019, Marrakesh, Morocco.*
  - *Latin America Regional Review, June 2019 (TBC), Asunción, Paraguay.*
GLOBAL PREPARATIONS

The Inter-Agency Consultative Group (IACG) on the follow-up and implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action is being convened on a regular basis to consult on the substantive and organizational aspects of the preparatory process, as well as the contributions of the UN system and other international organizations.

- 6th IACG meeting, 11 April 2018, Geneva
- 7th IACG meeting, 14 November 2018, New York
- 8th IACG meeting, 10 April 2019, Geneva

THE HIGH-LEVEL MIDTERM REVIEW

- OBJECTIVE OF THE MIDTERM REVIEW

The Midterm Review will review the progress that has been made in the implementation of the VPoA since its adoption, share best practices and lessons learnt, identify remaining obstacles and constraints and outline actions needed to accelerate the implementation of the Programme.

- EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Assessment of the extent to which the LLDCs and their partners are on track to reach the specific objectives set out in the Vienna Programme of Action.
2. Identification of innovative solutions and appropriate strategies and mechanisms to address the remaining challenges that LLDCs face and accelerate the implementation of the VPoA and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable for Development by the LLDCs.
3. Adoption of an inter-governmentally negotiated and agreed outcome in the form of a political declaration.

UN-OHRLLS, in collaboration with partner organizations, is organizing a number of pre-conference events on specific themes:

- Ministerial Meeting of LLDCs on Transport and Trade; 16-17 May 2018.
- Climate Change and Migration for LLDCs; 30 May 2018.
- Inaugural Conference of the International Think Tank for LLDCs; 11-12 June 2018.
- Connecting LLDCs’ cities to Global Markets through Sustainable Aviation; 11 July 2018.
- Accelerating Energy transition in LLDCs; 12 July 2018.
- Promoting Foreign Investment for LLDCs; 25 October 2018.
- Border Agency Cooperation Workshop; 14-16 November 2018.
- SDGs and Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities for LLDCs; 13 December 2018.
- Science, technology and innovation for achieving structural economic transformation in LLDCs; 10-11 April.
- Retreat on the Midterm Review of the VPoA; May 2019.

You can find all the pre-conferences on this link: http://www.lldc2conference.org/global/