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Midterm review meeting of Latin American countries  
preparatory to the comprehensive midterm review of  
the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked  
Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024

Santiago, 11–12 June 2019

### **PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME**

(Celso Furtado conference room, ECLAC headquarters)

#### **Tuesday, 11 June**

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| 9 – 9.30 a.m.      | Registration   |
| 9.30 – 10 a.m.     | <p>Opening session: Welcome remarks and high-level stocktaking of progress over the past five years</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Keiji Inoue, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)</li><li>• Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States</li><li>• Doma Tshering, Permanent Representative of Bhutan to the United Nations and co-facilitator for the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024</li><li>• Julio César Arriola Ramírez, Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations and Chair of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries</li></ul> |
| 10 – 10.40 a.m.    | Group photo and coffee break   |
| 10.40 – 10.45 a.m. | Election of officers and adoption of the agenda  |

10.45 a.m. – noon

**Midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 in Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Session 1(a): Assessing progress**

This session will provide an overview of progress made in implementing the Vienna Programme of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Latin American region, highlighting achievements, challenges and opportunities, and suggesting actions needed.

Moderator: Sandagdorj Erdenebileg, Chief of the Policy Development, Coordination, Monitoring and Reporting Service of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)

- Presentation of ECLAC report, Ricardo J. Sánchez, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC
- Gladys Mutangadura, Senior Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS

Noon – 1 p.m.

**Session 1(b): Fundamental transit policy issues**

In this session, the discussion and experience-sharing will focus on experiences regarding progress, challenges, opportunities and best practices for improving connectivity through policy coordination and harmonization since the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action.

Moderator: Sandagdorj Erdenebileg, Chief of the Policy Development, Coordination, Monitoring and Reporting Service of UN-OHRLLS

- Gladys Mutangadura, Senior Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS
- Presentation of ECLAC report, Gabriel Pérez, Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC

Statements by the delegations

Discussion

1 – 2.30 p.m.

Lunch recess

2.30 – 3.30 p.m.

**Session 2: Connectivity and transport infrastructure development**

In this session, the discussion and experience-sharing will focus on progress, challenges, opportunities and best practices for improving transport connectivity for landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) since the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action, and recommendations for capacity-building and enhancing partnerships to improve the connectivity of LLDCs.

Moderator: David Suarez, consultant with UN-OHRLLS and ECLAC

- Gladys Mutangadura, Senior Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS
- Presentation of ECLAC report, Fabio Weikert Bicalho, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC

Statements by the delegations

Discussion

3.30 – 4 p.m.

Coffee break

4 – 5 p.m.

**Session 3: ICT connectivity, energy and regional integration**

In this session, the progress made on ICT connectivity, sustainable energy and regional integration will be reviewed, identifying challenges and best practices.

Moderator: Ricardo J. Sánchez, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC

- Sebastian Rovira, Economic Affairs Officer, Division of Production, Productivity and Management of ECLAC
- Rubén Contreras, Economic Affairs Officer, Natural Resources Division of ECLAC
- Presentation of ECLAC report, Gabriel Pérez, Economic Affairs Officer, International Trade and Integration Division of ECLAC
- Sergio Scarabino, Representative for South America of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Statements by the delegations

Discussion

**Wednesday, 12 June**

9 – 9.45 a.m.

**Sustainable transport connectivity and implementation of transport-related Sustainable Development Goals in selected landlocked and transit/bridging countries**

In support of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the decade 2014–2024, the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), ECLAC and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) are jointly implementing a project under the United Nations Development Account, with the aim of designing and implementing an evidence-based transport policy framework for landlocked and transit countries that fosters sustainable transport connectivity and the implementation of transport-related Sustainable Development Goals.

Moderator: Gabriel Pérez, Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC

- Roel Janssens, Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Transport Division of UNECE (by video link)
- Private sector perspective on logistics in the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Paraguay

Comments and questions by the delegations

9.45 – 11 a.m.

**Session 4: International trade and trade facilitation**

In this session, progress made in increasing trade potential and promoting trade facilitation will be discussed, best practices and experiences will be shared, pending challenges will be identified and recommendations suggested. Participants will also discuss how to accelerate implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) of the World Trade Organization (WTO), in an interactive deliberation with statements by the countries.

Moderator: Paul Akiwumi, Director, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes (ALDC) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

- Raúl Torres, Counsellor, Development Division, World Trade Organization (WTO) (by video link)
- Presentation of ECLAC report, Keiji Inoue, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC
- Sebastián Ortiz, Director for Multilateral Economic Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Alternate Coordinator of the National Committee on Trade Facilitation of Paraguay

Sharing of national experiences by the delegations

11 – 11.30 a.m.

Coffee break

11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Session 5: Structural economic transformation**

Experiences will be discussed and shared on the progress that landlocked developing countries have made on structural economic transformation and industrialization, as well as economic diversification and value addition. Challenges, opportunities and best practices will be identified and recommendations suggested to foster structural transformation and industrialization.

Moderator: Sandagdorj Erdenebileg, Chief of the Policy Development, Coordination, Monitoring and Reporting Service of UN-OHRLLS

- Gabriel Porcile, Economic Affairs Officer, Division of Production, Productivity and Management of ECLAC
- Presentation of ECLAC report, Ricardo J. Sánchez, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC
- Mussie Delelegn, Chief, Landlocked Developing Countries Section, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes (ALDC) of UNCTAD

Comments by the delegations

1 – 2.30 p.m.

Lunch recess

2.30 – 3.30 p.m.

**Session 6: Means of implementation**

In this session, the status of means of implementation, financing, partnerships and review will be examined, and participants will consider how to foster partnerships for accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.

Moderator: Isabelle Turcotte, consultant with UN-OHRLLS and ECLAC

- Financing for development in the Latin American region, Georgina Cipoletta Tomassian, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development Division of ECLAC
- Presentation of ECLAC report, Gabriel Pérez, Economic Affairs Officer, Division of International Trade and Integration of ECLAC
- Jan Kickert, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations
- Yeshey Dorji, Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS

Comments by the delegations

3.30 – 4 p.m.

Coffee break

4 – 5 p.m.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

Summary of the Chair

5 – 5.30 p.m.

**Closing session**

- Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
- Jan Kickert, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations and co-facilitator for the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
- Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC
- Chair of the meeting