The importance of the Vienna Programme of Action and enhanced transit for Landlocked Developing Countries

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Landlocked Developing Countries
Development Challenges faced by LLDCs

CHALLENGES

- Long distances to sea ports
- Remoteness from markets
- Inadequate physical/hard infrastructure
- Additional border crossings
- Logistical and institutional bottlenecks
- High trade costs

IMPACT

- Limited physical and digital connectivity
- Limited capacity to embrace technology, maintenance & resilience
- Low competitiveness, trade potential, economic growth
- Poor productive capacities
- Lack of diversification/commodity dependence
- Limited investment
- Vulnerability to shocks
- Limited integration GVCs
Transit

HARDWARE

SOFTWARE
The Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA)

- Outcome of 2\textsuperscript{nd} UN Conference on LLDCs
- 6 priority areas:
  1. Fundamental Transit Policy
  2. Infrastructure Development & Maintenance
  3. International trade & trade facilitation
  4. Regional Integration & Cooperation
  5. Structural Economic Transformation
  6. Means of Implementation

- Aims to transform Landlocked countries to Land-linked economies
Legal framework for transit and LLDCs

More efficient and effective border and customs controls
- Simplified and standardized procedures
- Recognized transit documents
- Faster, safer and more reliable transport
- More transparency
- Enhanced cooperation
- Trade facilitation measures

Lower Transport Costs
- Fewer Delays

Enhanced Connectivity and More Trade for LLDCs
- Enhanced Competitiveness of LLDCs
International legal instruments on transit transport

- WCO Revised Kyoto Convention (1999)
- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (2013)
## Status of ratifications

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Convention</th>
<th>LLDCs (Dec 2014)</th>
<th>LLDCs (Oct 2019)</th>
<th>Transit developing countries (Dec 2014)</th>
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Way forward

• E-TIR is important for improving the transit of goods for LLDCs.
• It is important for reducing trade costs and increasing the trade capacity of LLDCs.
• It is important to become party to the international conventions that have proved to enhance trade and transport.
• Capacity and financial support to LLDCs and transit countries is critical for effective implementation
• Greater sharing of experiences between regions.
Thank You

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