High-level plenary meeting - Comprehensive midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action (VpoA) for Landlocked Developing Countries for the decade 2014-2024

Statement by Brazil

5 December 2019
Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me state that Brazil reaffirms its recognition of the special needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries, which have been reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Brazil has actively participated in the discussions that led to the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries and remains engaged in ensuring its full, timely, and effective implementation.

The intrinsic geographical isolation of Landlocked Developing Countries results in significant practical challenges, such as increased vulnerability to external shocks, greater difficulty to integrate into global trade and attract private investments, higher transportation costs, inadequate infrastructure, amongst others. Addressing those challenges is of paramount importance to enable Landlocked Developing Countries to overcome structural macroeconomic constraints and achieve their full economic and social potential.

Over the years, Brazil has continued to make contributions to the development of Landlocked Developing Countries through the provision of South-South cooperation. Such initiatives have flourished in areas such as agriculture, education, health, capacity building, strengthening of local markets and technical cooperation, involving countries in need in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. South-South cooperation remains an important priority for the Brazilian Government, aimed at fostering sustainable development through human and institutional capacity-building and at promoting structural changes to the socioeconomic reality of our partners.

We expect that the comprehensive high-level midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action will renew our collective political commitment to achieving progress in its six mutually reinforcing priority areas, as well as identifying remaining obstacles and constraints. We also expect it to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable
Development Goals through renewed means of implementation and the sharing of good practices and lessons learnt.

Allow me to conclude my remarks by recalling that the Vienna Programme of Action is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which we have all committed to achieve.

Thank you.