



नेपाल NEPAL

**Statement by Ms. Sewa Lamsal Adhikari, Deputy Permanent Representative of the
Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations at the General Debate of the High
Level Segment of the Substantive Session of the Economic and Social Council
(New York, 8 July 2015)**

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Mr. President,

I am pleased to address the Council at the time when the UN membership is engaged in shaping our course of action for the next fifteen years. I associate myself with the statement made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. We express our sincere thanks to the Secretary-General and his team for the comprehensive report.

The Rio+20 Conference envisaged the concept of the HLPF to mobilize collective political will of the membership and the ECOSOC has been an apex body of the UN for the socio-economic capital mobilization. The confluence of HLPF and ECOSOC Substantive Session has been a unique reengineering of Member States to drive on the path of our common journey to human prosperity with dignity.

My delegation welcomes the theme of this year **“Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals (SDGs): What it will take”** and subscribes to the view that the transition management with a greater emphasis in achieving integration and coherence across actors and sectors is essential with robust institutional mechanism. In this context, let me assure you, Mr. President, of the full cooperation of my delegation.

Mr. President,

Poverty and hunger constitute serious impediment to economic, human and social progress, which have been further aggravated by the negative and disproportional impact of climate change and frequent disasters both natural and human-induced. Therefore, if the LDCs are to graduate as envisioned in the IPOA, now is the real time to address their issues as we are in the final stage of shaping the post-2015 development agenda encompassing the SDGs.

The Secretary-General's reports make it clear, once again, that the LDCs, particularly those which are also land-locked, constitute the most vulnerable and weakest segment of international community. The reasons are obvious: their high-cost economy, inadequate trade related infrastructures and limited access to the international trade, among others.

Trade being an engine of growth and development, Nepal reaffirms the need of enhanced cooperation for a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system that would provide robust trade-related technical assistance and capacity building

to remove LDCs' supply-side constraints and promote their trade-related infrastructure and productive capacity.

The technological as well as institutional capacity deficit of LDCs has seriously inhibited generation and mobilization of resources to implement the Internationally Agreed Development Goals. Investment in knowledge, technology and innovation sectors is a must to overcome the serious digital divide, which is not only undermining the human and social capital development but is also increasing the technology gap between the North and South in the global development landscape. Nepal reaffirms the principle of right to development and underlines the need for STEM education and the technology bank for the LDCs.

Nepal further underlines that the clean affordable, reliable, renewable and sustainable energy is a major game changer of development, and strongly supports the SEA4ALL initiative of the SG to overcome the constraints of LDCs.

Similarly, ODA which is fundamental for the development of the LDCs, needs to be enhanced and strengthened, and also allocated between sectors in a balanced manner. Together, dedicated and targeted support and cooperation with an emphasis on the global partnership through mutual accountability for development effectiveness is vital for desired results on the ground. Nepal appreciates partners who have met their commitments and encouraged others to do more. Nepal recognizes the complementary role of the South-South and triangular cooperation as agreed in IPOA and reaffirms that it should be the guiding principles in any global development framework with well-targeted support measures for equity, inclusiveness and sustainability.

Mr. President,

Nepal is a land-locked and least developed country, emerging from conflict and yet aspiring to graduate from the LDC status by 2022, dealt a devastating blow by the earthquake in April f numerous powerful aftershocks. Nepal was on track in achieving most of the MDGs and did actually meet for the first time, two of the three criteria to graduate from the Least Developed Country status. That positive development has now been shattered.

Nonetheless, Nepal is determined to move on with the continued understanding and support of the international community. My delegation extends its profound gratitude to our neighbours and all friends of Nepal for their solidarity, support and commitment made in the 'International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction' held in Kathmandu last month. The Conference has given a strong message that Nepal is not alone in this time of need and that, with the continued support of the international community, Nepal will build back stronger and better, sooner than later. In this context, the GA resolution unanimously adopted in May, is another testimony of the international community in our endeavour.

Finally, **Mr. President**, the transition management should be maintained in all outcome documents of the major conferences. With the pain of the earthquake, compounded by several other natural disasters, Nepal is looking forward for the outcome documents of HLPF and ECOSOC with great hope; particularly in the run up to the Conferences on Financing for Development as well as the post-2015 development agenda and UNFCCC, to realize the future we want, leaving no one behind.

I thank you.