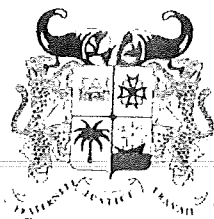


*Mission Permanente  
de la République du Bénin  
auprès des Nations Unies*



*Permanent Mission of  
the Republic of Benin  
to the United Nations*

**SIXTY NINTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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**JOINT SESSION OF THE PROCESS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS  
ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT**

**STATEMENT  
BY**

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS,  
CHAIR OF THE GLOBAL COORDINATION BUREAU OF LDCs**

**NEW YORK, 21 APRIL 2015**

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Distinguished Co-Chairs of the Post-2015 and FfD3 processes  
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of LDCs. The Group aligns itself with the statement made by South Africa on behalf of the G77 and China.

Last week, we participated in a week-long drafting session on the outcome of the Third UN Conference on FfD. The discussions were substantive in nature. We found a broad convergence of opinion on the magnitude of challenges ahead of us and the need for significant amount of additional resources to realize the global development agenda. However, there was huge divergence on how to realize the goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda.

We are working to have an ambitious universal development agenda recognizing addressing the critical issue of inequalities and eradication of extreme poverty and ensuring sustainable growth for shared prosperity on the one hand and the means of its implementation and the policy environment enabling framework, the institutional and structural arrangements and the clearly defined commitments to be taken by all actors.

For the LDCs, we need to reach meaningful measurable deliverables that will serve as benchmarks for consistent follow up and monitoring and consensual decision making having in view the goals consensually defined and pursued with a view of achieve desired result for humanity and the planet.

As we iteratively stated, the credibility of the whole agenda will be judged on the concrete improvement that will occur in the situation of LDCs in the spirit of the Principle 6 of the Rio declaration on principles on sustainable development. In this spirit, we rightly recognized that the eradication of poverty and the preservation of the planet are the overarching purposes of the Post 2015 development programme. The means of implementation should be commensurate to our legitimate ambitions.

As we gather to reflect on the ways and means to get there, we need to shift from our usual comfort zone to cross the historical north-south divide in order to search for optimum outcome and solutions to the global challenges facing humanity and to shoulder our common responsibility for the better future we want.

The Group of LDCs made its legitimate proposals known to the international community. We have been participating in the negotiations with a great deal of hope and aspirations. We have been hearing the reiteration of the same commitments on the global partnerships for years. Each actor has to endeavor to bring up the right level of

empathy and the adequate contribution to the achieving the future we want. That is the major paradigm change we are calling for.

Mindful of this common purpose, and equally interested in having concrete outcomes for the people and the planet, we cannot just go to Addis to reconfirm commitments defined forty years ago. Time has come to revisit them and lift them up to our ambitions and to the challenges of this century while recognizing the critical moment in the history of humanity that the next 15 years represent where we need to do the right things to get it right or expect to unleash against our and generations to come irremediable consequences of our inaction.

We need to bring up the means of implementation to be credible on the SDGs and restore trust and confidence in our desired common future. We therefore want to see some specific measures and mechanisms as key deliverables of the Third UN Conference on FfD. We need to provide each group of countries with the right means and the right tools achieve our common goals of shared prosperity.

The LDCs are sympathetic of the concern voiced by other Groups, including the SIDS, LLDCs and the other developing countries including the middle income countries because we need to secure a briefing space of each and every one with a higher sense of equity and common destination. As we stated while we were working on the SDGs, they cannot achieve them unless they are met for every body everywhere.

The Group of LDCs is looking forward to see a major headway in various pillars of the Financing for Development. We can cluster the issues into three broad categories:

**First:** The Group of LDCs wants global consensus on specific measures, which include among others,

- (i) 0.25% of GNI as ODA;
- (ii) allocation of 50% of ODA to LDCs to be used in catalytic way and to be put at the service of domestic resource mobilization;
- (iii) allocation of 50 per cent of aid for trade to LDCs;
- (iv) cancellation of all outstanding debt of LDCs, and debt moratorium as an interim arrangement, (v) realization of the DFQF market access for all LDCs products, and
- (vi) allocation of 0.1 per cent of ODA to the Technology Bank..

**Second:** Launching of specific initiatives and mechanisms to mobilize resources and building LDCs capacity in the area of development. This includes:

- (i) a dedicated facility for LDCs for investment in infrastructure

- (ii) operationalization of the Technology Bank for LDCs;
- (iii) the International Support Center for LDCs, and
- (iv) a crisis mitigation and resilience building fund for LDCs.

**Third:** Institutions building and systemic reform, which include:

- (i) an international intergovernmental organization on tax cooperation;
- (ii) an inclusive intergovernmental entity for FfD follow-up;
- (iii) using uniform category of countries by all international and regional organizations and providing tailor-made and targeted support to LDCs, and
- (iv) enhancing the representation and voice and participation of LDCs in the global decision making and norm setting processes.

The Group of LDCs would like to engage in a focused discussion on the above areas to reach consensus on the FfD outcome document.

In conclusion, the Group would like to appeal that eradicating poverty and achieving prosperity in LDCs is the biggest global public goods. We all need to embrace this reality and to take the full ownership of this biggest responsibility. If we all share these values, our work would be much easier in the days ahead.

I thank you all for your kind attention.