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STATEMENT

BY

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ON BEHALF OF

THE LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES GROUP

AT THE

**11TH SESSION OF THE OPEN WORKING GROUP (OWG)
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)**

ON FOCUS AREAS

5th -9th May, 2014

New York
6th May 2014

Mr. Co Chair,

I wish to make this intervention on behalf of the Landlocked Developing Countries group pertaining to the Focus areas 7, 8 and 9. I wish to align this statement of the Group of 77 and China made by the Ambassador of Bolivia.

I wish to further observe that the proposals of targets that were made by the group on the focus areas relating to infrastructure, economic growth and industrialization need to be reflected in the working document and to be correctly referenced. In view of this I wish to make the interventions as follows;

On Focus Area 7: Energy, the group supports a standalone goal to read; **Ensure access to affordable, sustainable, and reliable modern energy for all.**

The group also supports the proposed targets (a) up to (d). We further propose the targets below on infrastructure which were not included and are one of the important priorities for the LLDCs as follows;

- Infrastructure expansion for supply, transmission and distribution of modern and renewable energy in both rural and urban areas.
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Targets on means of implementation should include;

- Strengthening planning and construction of energy infrastructure such as pipelines in the most cost effective way.
- Enhance cooperation and increased international assistance /commitments to landlocked and transit developing countries to plan and construct energy infrastructure.

On Focus Area 8: **Economic growth**, the LLDCs group proposed the following Goal at the last session which we wish to reiterate;

1. **Goal : To achieve high and inclusive economic growth for sustainable development.**

With regards to the proposed targets the group supports the targets a) up to j) and suggest that marginalized groups in b) be replaced with the phrase vulnerable groups

The group further propose inclusion of the following targets;

- a) Improved infrastructure development in key sectors such as transport, ICT and energy for LLDCs,
- b) Improved industrial production, competitiveness and diversification for LLDCs,

- c) Improved domestic and international competitive value chain industries,
- d) Reduced transport and trade facilitation costs for LLDCs,
- e) Achieve greater and deeper regional economic integration for LLDCs,
- f) Build resilience, adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change and other natural disasters for LLDCs,
- g) Promote trade facilitation and preferential market access for LLDCs,
- h) Enhance international technology cooperation and technology transfer of sound technologies to LLDCs

Coming to the focus area 9; we realize that industrialization has been paired with equality among nations, although our initial preference was to pair industrialization with infrastructure development as follows:

2. Goal : To achieve rapid development transformation through industrial and infrastructure development.

With this combination, our view was that targets should include the following;

- a) Achieve reliable transport, energy and ICT infrastructure development and maintenance including transit systems for LLDCs.
- b) Increased international support measures for LLDCs in infrastructure development.
- c) Promote regional integration and cooperation on infrastructure development for LLDCs.
- d) Enhance the acquisition of technologies to promote the manufacturing of competitive products that do not require expensive on-land transportation.

In addition we support the targets a) to e) and suggest that we maintain g) and further combine the elements in targets f) and h) of focus area 9 as they address similar issue of efficiency and environmentally sound technologies and processes which also implies sustainable products.

We also welcome addition of the means of implementation targets to the focus area and we seek to further work and elaborate on calculable targets.

I thank you.