

**Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and
Financing for Development**

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Name of speaker: (Mr.) (Ms.) KABIR AHMED
Title as in Letter of credentials: Joint Secretary
Country/Organization: Bangladesh

Please indicate the agenda item on which you wish to speak:

Agenda Item No: 4

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Bangladesh Statement on Agenda item 4:

Mr. chair, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Very good morning to all of you.

As all of we know, world largest number of poor people are living in Asia pacific region. Financing is a critical issue for the development and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals for most of the countries of the region. For country with special needs, financing is the main constrain for their development. LDCs, LLDCs and SIDSs are always suffering from the lack of resources for their development from the very beginning of their journey. As all of you know, for implementation of SDGs countries with special needs require huge amount of resources but due to their structural formation, the countries with special needs are not have enough resources for investing their development. The financing issue is considering one of the major important issue for country with special needs which was addressed in Addis Ababa action agenda and call for stronger global and regional support for financing for development in this country including the infrastructure financing and international tax cooperation. Considering the importance of financing, the UN Secretary General emphasizes to enhance sustainable financing strategies and investment at regional and country level which is mentioned in the "Secretary General's strategy for financing the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development (2018-2021)".

Bangladesh as one of the leading LDCs, felt the importance of financing for its development. The government of Bangladesh has taken number of initiatives for development of capacity to increase the domestic resources. The reform in Income Tax, VAT and Customs Act, government is expanding the network of tax collection and try to increase the government revenues. On the other hand, Government of Bangladesh is trying to save money in government revenue expenditure and invest more money in development project.

As we know, the ODA flow is decreasing day by day which is creating obstacle for the development of the country with special needs. Bangladesh is also facing the

same problem due to the decreasing of ODA. But government of Bangladesh is trying to enhance local resources to mobilize for development. Recently Bangladesh became eligible for graduation from LDCs. Bangladesh successfully fulfill all three criteria along with some other countries for graduation of LDCs. Graduation is a prestigious matter for a country but it creates some challenges. Bangladesh is assessing the impact of graduation from LDCs when international support measures will be withdrawn. For a sustainable graduation, Bangladesh is requesting international community to continue the support till the sustainable graduation of the country. We also proposing to establish a new club for recently graduating country for raising their voice in international forum for their sustainable graduation.

Without regional cooperation, it is really impossible to implement SDGs in the countries with special needs. A framework needs to establish for facilitating regional cooperation among the member state of ESCAP region. My delegation is requesting to ESCAP secretariat to build up a framework for effective regional cooperation among the member states of ESCAP region for successful implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By this way we can ensure 'leave no one behind'.

I thank you all.