

LLDCS IN THE GLOBAL AGENDA: CHALLENGES AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSES

CHAIR OF THE GROUP OF LLDCS IN GENEVA

EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON THE MIDTERM REVIEW OF THE VPOA FOR LLDCS FOR 2014-2024.

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19 SEPTEMBER



Landlocked Developing Countries (32 countries)

Africa 16, Asia 12, Latin America 2, Central and Eastern Europe 2




Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.


DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES



WHAT DO LLDCS HAVE IN COMMON?

- **GEOGRAPHICAL CONDITION:** lack of direct access to the sea, dependence on transit countries to access global market effectively.
 - **ECONOMIC MODELS:** high commodity dependence and vulnerability to external shocks.
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Issues that affect the development of LLDCs:

- Higher costs and more time to reach markets
 - Loss of trade and lower average growth rates
 - Declining ODA and FDI
 - Lack of adequate physical and digital infrastructure - both internal and in transit countries
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WHAT DO LLDCs WANT?


LANDLOCKED  LAND-LINKED

SOME OPPORTUNITIES FOR LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

- **GEOGRAPHICAL CONDITION:** located at the center of everything, potential for integrating regional and global value chains
 - **TRADE FACILITATION:** reduction of transactions costs and time at border crossings
 - **E-COMMERCE:** as a trade facilitation tool, but also as a way to reach markets and overcome physical infrastructure capacities.
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LLDCs IN THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA

LLDCs are present in...

- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS – AGENDA 2030
 - ADDIS ABABA AGENDA FOR FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT
 - FRIENDS OF MONTEREY
 - SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
 - NAIROBI MAFIKIANO
 - AG/RES/71/243 - QUADRENNIAL COMPREHENSIVE POLICY REVIEW (QCPR)
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LLDCs work together in

- VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION 2014-2024
- INTERNATIONAL THINK TANK FOR LLDCS
- LLDCS MINISTERIAL
 - MEETINGS IN 2018: Astana Ministerial Meeting of LLDCs on Trade and Transport (ASTANA, 16TH- 17TH OF MAY) and Annual Ministerial Meeting of LLDCS (NY, 28 OF SEPTEMBER)

VIENNA PROGRAM OF ACTION

The VPoA is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and its full implementation is fundamental to achieving the SDGs by LLDCs


The VPoA seeks to build up on the Almaty Action Plan in order to address the challenges faced by landlocked countries and to contribute to the eradication of poverty stemming from their landlockedness, through the implementation of specific actions in its six priority areas


KEY GOALS OF THE 2030 AGEDA FOR LLDCs



VPOA MIDTERM REVIEW

GA/RES/72/232 – High level midterm review to be held no later than Dec 2019:

- To be coordinated by UNHORLLS
 - Participation of UN agencies, UNCTAD and regional commissions, according to their mandates
 - To review progress made by LLDCs, transit countries and development partners
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- Forum to share best practices and lessons learned
 - Identify obstacles and constraints encountered, as well as new challenges
 - Identify actions and initiatives needed to overcome them to further accelerate the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action
 - The Midterm Review shall be preceded by (3) regional preparatory meetings
 - Donors: China, India, Kazakhstan and Austria.
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WORK OF THE LLDCs GROUP CHAIR




GROUP OF LLDCs IN GENEVA


- AT THE UN: UNCTAD – Trade and Development Board
- AT THE WTO: TRADE FACILITATION – TFC and TFF

LLDCs in UNCTAD

- Trade as a means for achieving SDGs: generation of import and export revenues, mobilization of private sector resources and FDI and bridging the technological gap.
- Nairobi mafikiano: sustainable productive investment, transport, cooperation between LLDCs and transit countries, use of internet and e-commerce, productive capacities and structural economic transformation

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- Support of donor countries, partners and international organizations to work with LLDCs, specially in the 2019 midterm review of the VPoA
 - Promotion of inter-agency work to optimize UN resources
 - Support the work of the LLDC section within the Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes
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LLDCs at the WTO

- Development as integral part of the WTO agenda
 - Trade Facilitation Agreement
 - WG on LLDCs?
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THANK YOU