



UN-OHRLLS

**MIDTERM REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE VIENNA PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR LLDCs FOR THE DECADE
2014-2024 IN THE EURO-ASIAN REGION**

**11-12 February 2019
Conference Room 4, United Nations Conference Centre
Bangkok**

PROGRAMME

| DAY 1 (11th February) | |
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| 8:30-9:00 | Registration |
| 9:00-10:00 | <p>Opening Session:</p> <p>High-level stocktaking of progress over the last five years</p> <p><i>In this session the high-level speakers will give global and regional overview of the progress in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, the SDGs and other global development agenda in the Euro-Asia region, highlighting the achievements, challenges, opportunities and suggesting actions needed.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Hamza Ali Malik, Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, UNESCAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary and USG UNESCAP • Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, Under Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States • Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary and USG UNECE [video message] • Ms. Valerie Cliff, Deputy Regional Director of the Regional Bureau of Asia and the Pacific of UNDP |
| 10:00-10:30 | Group photo and coffee break |
| 10:30-10:40 | Election of the Bureau |

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| 10:40-12:00 | <p>Session 1a; Assessing Progress – Introduction of Report for the Meeting</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, UN-OHRLLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Gladys Mutangadura, Senior Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS • Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina, Chief, Transport Facilitation and Logistics Section, Transport Division, UNESCAP <p>Session 1b: Fundamental Transit Policy Issues</p> <p><i>The session will discuss and share experiences on progress made, challenges, opportunities and best practices in improving connectivity through policy coordination and harmonization since the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action and suggest recommendations. It will also review progress made on regional legal frameworks for transit.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, UN-OHRLLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Shishir Priyadarshi, Director, Development Division, World Trade Organization • Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina, Chief, Transport Facilitation and Logistics Section, Transport Division, UNESCAP • Mr. Roel Janssens, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe • Countries interventions • Interactive Discussion |
| 12:00-13:30 | <p>LUNCH BREAK</p> <p>Side-event: <i>Estimating benefits of transit corridors using a geographical simulation model</i>, co-organized by ITT-LLDCs, JETRO and UN-OHRLLS</p> <p>Venue: Meeting room A, UNCC</p> |
| 13:30-15:00 | <p>Session 2: Connectivity and Transport Infrastructure Development</p> <p><i>The session will discuss and share experiences on progress made, challenges, opportunities and best practices in improving connectivity for the LLDCs including both the hard and soft transport infrastructure since the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action and suggest recommendations to build capacity and partnerships to enhance transport connectivity of the LLDCs. The session will also identify recommendations to utilize the opportunities presented by the Belt and Road Initiative.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Sandagdorj Erdenebileg, Chief of Policy Development, Coordination, and Reporting Service, UN-OHRLLS</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina, Chief, Transport Facilitation and Logistics Section, Transport Division, UNESCAP • Mr. Roel Janssens, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe • Mr. Krishnan Lal Thapar, Chairman, Asian Institute of Transport Development • Countries interventions • Interactive Discussion |
| 15:00-15:15 | COFFEE BREAK |
| 15:15-16:45 | <p>Session 3: ICT Connectivity, Sustainable Energy and Regional Integration</p> <p><i>The session will review progress made on ICT connectivity, sustainable energy and regional integration identifying the challenges and best practices. The session will identify recommendations to utilize the opportunities presented by sub-regional integration mechanisms such as EAEU, AEC, Belt and Road Initiative for increased connectivity of the LLDCs.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Sandagdorj Erdenebileg, Chief of Policy Development, Coordination, and Reporting Service, UN-OHRLLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Gladys Mutangadura, Senior Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS • Mr. Mircea Ciopraga, Secretary General, Permanent Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA • Mr. Ashish Narayan, Programme Coordinator, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific • Countries interventions • Interactive Discussion |
| 16:45-18:00 | <p>Side event: Tools and Mechanisms for Facilitating Trade and Transport for Landlocked Developing Countries in Asia, organized by UNESCAP</p> <p>Venue: Conference room 4, UNCC</p> |
| DAY 2 (12th February) | |
| 9:00-10:30 | <p>Session 4: International Trade and Trade Facilitation</p> <p><i>This session will discuss the progress made in increasing trade potential and promoting trade facilitation, share best practice experiences and identify the outstanding challenges and suggested recommendations. It</i></p> |

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| | <p><i>will also discuss how to accelerate the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Mia Mikic, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, UNESCAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yann Duval, Chief, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, UNESCAP • Mr. Mussie Delelegn, Chief, LLDC' Section, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD • Countries interventions • Interactive Discussion |
| 10:30-10:45 | COFFEE BREAK |
| 10:45-12:15 | <p>Session 5: Structural Economic Transformation</p> <p><i>The session will discuss and share experiences on the progress that the LLDCs have made on structural economic transformation, and industrialization, as well as economic diversification and value-addition. It will identify the challenges, opportunities and best practices and suggest recommendations to foster structural transformation and industrialization.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Sandagdorj Erdenebileg, Chief of Policy Development, Coordination, and Reporting Service, UN-OHRLLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Stein Hansen, Regional Director and Representative of UNIDO • Mr. Nyingtob Norbu, Counties with Special Needs Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, UNESCAP • Mr. Erdenetsogt Odbayar, Executive Director, International Think Tank for LLDCs • Countries interventions • Interactive Discussion |
| 12:15-13:45 | <p>LUNCH BREAK</p> <p>Side-event: <i>Fostering Productive Capacities, Export Diversification and Structural Transformation in Asian LLDCs</i>, organized by UNCTAD and the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC).</p> <p>Venue: Meeting room A</p> |
| 13:45-15:15 | <p>Session 6: Means of Implementation Partnerships and Follow-up and Review</p> <p><i>This session will review the state of means of implementation, follow-up</i></p> |

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| | <p><i>and review and how to foster partnerships for accelerated implementation of the VPoA.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Hamza Ali Malik, Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, UNESCAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Dagmar Hertova, Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS • Mr. Denis Nkala, Regional Coordinator and Representative for Asia-Pacific, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation • Ms. Johanna Lindner, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations in New York, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs • Countries interventions • Interactive Discussion |
| 15:15-15:30 | COFFEE BREAK |
| 15:30-16:30 | Consideration of the Outcome |
| 16:30-17:00 | <p>Closing Session</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, Under Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States 2. Mr. Hongjoo Hahm, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNESCAP 3. H.E. Ms. Doma Tshering, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bhutan to the United Nations in New York and Co-Facilitator for the Mid Term Review of the Vienna Programme of Action |