

Support for Landlocked Developing Countries: Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action and other areas of support

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supporting
Least Developed Countries
Landlocked Developing Countries
Small Island Developing States

United Nations Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries,
Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs (VPoA)



- ❖ Outcome of 2nd UN Conference on LLDCs
- ❖ 6 priority areas:
 - 1. Fundamental Transit Policy**
 - 2. Infrastructure Development & Maintenance**
 - 3. International trade & trade facilitation**
 - 4. Regional Integration & Cooperation**
 - 5. Structural Economic Transformation**
 - 6. Means of Implementation**



High-Level Midterm Review- VPoA

- Held in 2019 to assess the progress made, identify obstacles and constraints encountered and recommendations to accelerate implementation.
- Regional Review meetings – Europe and Asia, Africa and Latin America
- High-level Meeting in New York 5-6 December 2019.
- Progress made but there were still major challenges.
- Political declaration adopted has important areas for action:
 - Ratification and effective implementation legal instruments
 - Resilient transit transport infrastructure
 - Corridor development
 - Trade facilitation
 - Structural transformation



Side event at the High-level Meeting

- Modernization of the transit process – opportunities offered by TIR - UNECE, OHRLLS, IRU and WCO
- Attended by LLDCs and transit countries
- Discussed the many opportunities offered to LLDCs by the ongoing TIR digitalization efforts and the transit facilitation tools and initiatives
- Participants noted that e-TIR is a best practice in the area of transit and trade facilitation that is crucial for faster clearance



Quantifying transport costs

- Workshop co-organized with UNECE in Sept 2019
- The meeting noted that the importance of developing a comprehensive methodology to incorporate both soft and hard infrastructure related costs, to measure the economic distance to markets and assess efficiency of administrative processes in LLDCs.



Roadmap for Accelerated Implementation of VPoA

- Roadmap of concrete activities and deliverables by the UN system and other organizations for accelerated implementation of the VPoA in the remaining 5 years.
- Detailed mapping against the key UN action key areas such as Transit, trade and transport facilitation, energy, ICT, structural transformation, climate change, COVID-19 etc
- Some of UNECE activities:
 - Promote transport infrastructure connectivity
 - Provide important information from the newly established International Transport Infrastructure Observatory
 - Contribute to increased transport and trade facilitation through eTIR International System on specific transport corridors including LLDCs
 - Joint project on quantifying transport costs for LLDCs.



Thank You

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