Continued support to landlocked countries: The Vienna Programme of Action

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About UN-OHRLLS

- Assists 91 vulnerable countries
- Coordinates and implements Programmes of Action
- Advocates in favour of vulnerable country groups
- Mobilizes international support
- Supports countries through the United Nations system
Landlocked Developing Countries

- Bolivia
- Paraguay
- Moldova
- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Niger
- Mali
- Chad
- Central African Republic
- South Sudan
- Uganda
- Rwanda
- Burundi
- Malawi
- Zambia
- Botswana
- Lesotho
- Afghanistan
- Tajikistan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Mongolia
- Kazakhstan
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Bhutan
- Nepal
- Ethiopia
- Lesotho
- Swaziland
- Zimbabwe
- Azerbaijan
- Armenia
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan
- Tajikistan
- Kyrgyzstan
LLDCs trade less and pay more than coastal countries

UN-OHRLLS study results:

• LLDCs’ trade was just 61% of the trade volume of coastal countries

• Transport costs for LLDCs were 45% higher than the representative coastal economy and have increased over time

• The level of development in LLDCs is about 20% lower than what it would be, had they not been landlocked
It takes almost twice as long to cross borders for LLDCs

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Challenges of LLDCs

- High costs of trade
- Cumbersome transit and border crossing procedures
- Reliance on transit countries
- Inadequate infrastructure and high infrastructure investment needs
- Missing links and limited connectivity
- Low and declining export share
- Exports are highly concentrated in few commodities
- Value-added of agriculture and manufacturing declining
- Lower level of development
- Highly concentrated and decreasing ODA, FDI and remittance flows
Second UN Conference on LLDCs
Vienna, 3-5 November 2014
Vienna Programme of Action

Overarching goal

6 specific goals and objectives

Priority 1: fundamental transit policy issues
   - 3 specific objectives
     - 9 actions by LLDCs & transit dev. countries
     - 3 actions by development partners

Priority 2: infrastructure development and maintenance
   - 7 specific objectives
     - 16 actions by LLDCs & transit dev. countries

Priority 3: international trade and trade facilitation
   - 7 specific objectives
     - 8 actions by LLDCs
     - 10 actions by development partners
     - 8 actions by transit dev. countries

Priority 4: regional integration and corporation
   - 4 specific objectives
     - 10 actions by LLDCs
     - 1 action by transit dev. countries
     - 3 actions by development partners

Priority 5: structural economic transformation
   - 3 specific objectives
     - 3 actions by LLDCs
     - 6 actions by development partners

Priority 6: means of implementation
   - 1 action by transit dev. countries
   - 3 actions by development partners

Progress in implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action

• Some progress in ratification of transport-related conventions by LLDCs and transit countries
• Conventions need to be effectively implemented
• 21 LLDCs and 21 transit countries ratified the WTO TFA
• Corridors speeds in some regions reaching VPoA target
• Development and upgrading of transport infrastructure ongoing
• Access to energy increased
• Continued implementation of trade facilitation initiatives such as OSBPs, Electronic Single Windows, TIR carnets, etc.
• LLDCs are participating in regional trade and integration agreements
• Some LLDCs are making efforts to diversify and transform their economies
Way forward

Role of regional Commissions

• Mainstreaming VPoA into their programme of work
• Supporting the closing of missing links and development of infrastructure and connectivity for LLDCs
• Promoting regional cooperation
• Assist LLDCs in enhancing participation in regional trade and integration efforts
• Assist LLDCs in diversification of their economies and value-addition
• Support LLDCs in negotiating better mining contracts
Mid-term review of the VPoA

UN General Assembly resolution 72/232:

• Comprehensive high-level midterm review on the implementation of the VPoA no later than December 2019
• To review progress made in implementation of the VPoA; share best practices and lessons learned; identify obstacles, new challenges and actions and initiatives to overcome them
• Preceded by regional preparatory meetings and other substantive preparations
• Will adopt intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed political declaration
• Modalities considered before the end of its 72nd GA session
Preparatory process for the mid-term review

OHRLLS to coordinate the preparatory process; relevant UN system organizations, including regional commissions to provide support to the review process

At national level
• LLDCs to prepare national progress reports

At regional level
• 3 regional review meetings in collaboration with regional commissions
• Regional background reports

At global level
• IACG meetings
• Secretary-General’s report
• Thematic pre-conference events, side events, etc.
Thank You

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