

Mr. President, H.E. Mr. Christopher Onyanga Aparr (Uganda)
Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Mr. President,

On behalf of the LLDC group allow me to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your election. Please count with our support and contribution for the coming period. We deeply appreciate the work that His Excellency Ambassador Alfredo Suescum has done, with his dedication and continued commitment, he has guided us to an ambitious outcome in Nairobi. It is up to member states and the secretariat to fully implement the renew mandate.

As the coordination of the G77 has said it is critical to reinforce the intergovernmental pillar of this organization. We are going through difficult times and it is important to highlight the role of trade, investment and interrelated issues of technology and finance in promoting development

During the negotiations for the Nairobi outcome we gave great support to the creation of the intergovernmental expert groups meeting. Both topics we ended up, in the maafikiano, are of crucial for landlocked developing countries. we have set new goals for the SDGs and also, as a group, the LLDC have an ambitious agenda. To promote development and to fully harnessing the benefits of trade, we need to mobilize huge amount of resources, from all the possible venues, including financing for development, public and private investment, and trade.

In the same way, we are trying to structurally transform our economies, in this sense many studies suggest that we make take advantage of technologies to overcome our traditional handicaps coming from our geographical situation. That's why we are also supportive of the discussion on the development aspects of e-commerce.

Coming to the implementation of the whole Nairobi outcome, we expect that the issues of concern of the landlocked developing countries are fully mainstream in the work of the secretariat, in all its division. Each one of the divisions have a lot of to contribute, to present holistic solution options to our disadvantages.

For the LLDC there are several specific mandates, we are looking forward to work with the secretariat and the member states to implement them. Some of this issues are trade and investment, transport and logistic, internet and e-commerce, development of productive capacities, policy guidance and statistics, we look forward to having outcomes in these issues. We are also very supportive of the work of UNCTAD on debt, services and agriculture, and non-tariff barriers. All this issues will give the holistic approach we need to overcome our disadvantages and to promote development.

Thank you Mr. President.