Statement by H.E. Ambassador Mustafa Osman Ismail Elamin
Permanent Representative of Sudan,
On behalf of the African Group,

Item 10: Activities carried out in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the
Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020

Mr. President,

I would like to seize this opportunity to acknowledge the effort made by UNCTAD in advancing
the implementation of the Istanbul Program of Action(IPoA) on LDCs. However, there is more
effort has yet to be done. It is therefore crucial that, for the LDCs to be able to meet the SGDs,
UNCTAD and the whole international community need to double their efforts towards
assisting the LDCs in line with statement of the Director business as usual will not help to
accordance with the eight priority areas identified in the Istanbul Program of Action.

Mr. President,

Cognizant that two third of the African Countries are LDCs, what happens in African LDCs
affects the whole continent hence it will hinder the achievement of the ambitious aspiration
of Agenda 2063 (The Africa We Want) the prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and
sustainable development.

The African Group believes that any progress towards to achieve the Sustainable
Development Goals and the goals of the Istanbul Programme of Action could only be achieved
through structural transformation and economic diversification, to allow for the creation of
employment and higher value-added sectors.

Mr. President,

One of the challenges we have to address is the need to explore how the least developed
countries could strengthen domestic resource mobilization and increase access to
international development finance, including exploring how public–private partnerships
could be used more effectively. Other challenges are related to enabling the private sector,
accessing the technology and skills needed for higher value added production, exploring the
mechanisms needed to effectively participate in global value chains and to draw development
benefits from them and promoting greater foreign direct investment flows and technology
transfer to the least developed countries

Another challenge concerned overall policy prioritization and coherence, which depended on
individual country circumstances.
Mr. President,

We believe that least developed countries need to move from graduation strategies focused on qualification for graduation to graduation and beyond strategies that take a long-term perspective and foster structural transformation. Elements of such strategies include industrial policies, agricultural upgrading, scaling up of public investment and technology transfer. We urge the international community to support LDCs with finance, investment and capacity building to help these countries build up competitive productive capacity, Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development and trade supporting infrastructure must be part of a wider package to support graduating LDCs.

I thank you Mr. President.