

**STATEMENT BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA AT
THE 83RD SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE
PROGRAMME PLAN AND PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE, 7-9
FEBRUARY, 2022.**

**Chair of the 83rd Session of the Working Party on the
Programme Plan and Programme Performance**

Secretary General of UNCTAD, Ms. Rebecca Grynsan,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Nigeria delegation wishes to join to congratulate the Chair and his Vice Chair on his appointment. We wish to acknowledge the opportune time of this meeting to deliberate on the Programme Plan and Performance which will form the basis for recommendation to the Trade and Development Board during its Executive Session coming up in a matter of days. Nigeria is delighted to express her support in the programmes outlined by the Secretary General.

Mr. Chair

2. As we are all aware, COVID 19 continues to pose health threats to the world with its attendant consequences. This has necessitated an urgent need for solutions. There is no doubt that, the COVID 19 is the major global crisis of our time. The pandemic has further exposed the weakness of developing countries. The unequal access to vaccines has emerged as constraints that separates developed from developing countries and their chances of recovery.

3. The health menace is further heightened by the endemic infrastructural deficit and weak governance

structure in most developing nations. Statistics however indicate that the future is not entirely bleak. With stronger mechanisms, institutional reforms, financing for trade, technical assistance and debt forgiveness, we can achieve sustainable development and growth, in line with UN Agenda 2030.

Mr. Chair,

4. Nigeria remains optimistic that the 83rd Session of the Working Party will offer a unique opportunity of advancing the vision of 'building back better' and is committed to quicker economic and sustainable recovery.

I thank you for your kind attention.