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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

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Agenda item 3

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on 19 May 2023

79/3. Supporting the sustainable development of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries,¹

Recalling also the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,² as well as Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 75/1 of 31 May 2019 on the implementation of the outcome of the Euro-Asian Regional Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Recalling further the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,³ as well as Commission resolution 71/4 of 29 May 2015 on its implementation,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 77/246 of 30 December 2022 on the follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries and Assembly resolution 77/245 of 30 December 2022 on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in which the Assembly decided to convene in 2023, in collaboration with the regional commissions, regional preparatory meetings for the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries and the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in 2024,

Recalling also the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations,⁴ and reaffirming the Commission's commitment to promoting multilateralism and international cooperation,

¹ General Assembly resolution 76/258, annex.

² General Assembly resolution 69/137, annex II.

³ General Assembly resolution 69/15, annex.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 75/1.

strengthening partnerships for sustainable development, upholding the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and advancing sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing the unique challenges of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in the region, which find themselves in increasingly vulnerable situations, and resolving to accelerate the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action, the Vienna Programme of Action and the Samoa Pathway, which will further enhance the overall connectivity of such countries,

Reiterating that each country faces specific challenges in pursuing sustainable development and that the most vulnerable countries, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, deserve special attention,

Underscoring that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation are vital to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, noting that South-South cooperation and commitments are not a substitute for but a complement to North-South cooperation, and noting also that there is a clear need for more determined efforts by developed countries and development partners to enhance support to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States,

Emphasizing the critical importance of the work of the United Nations Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries as a focal point for the least developed countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacity towards building sustainable productive capacities and promoting structural economic transformation, as indicated in the Doha Programme of Action,

1. *Encourages* each least developed country Government to develop an ambitious national implementation strategy regarding the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and integrate the provisions of the Doha Programme of Action into its national policies and development and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, as recommended in the Doha Programme of Action;

2. *Urges* the development partners of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States to commit to providing concrete and substantial support to these efforts, in a spirit of shared responsibility and mutual accountability, especially to achieve sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, build resilience against future shocks, mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, find new economic growth momentum through the promotion of a sustainable economy and digital transformation, leverage social protections and education and address inequalities through a renewed and strengthened global partnership, bearing in mind that the ownership, leadership and primary responsibility for development in least developed countries rests with the least developed countries themselves and that least developed countries should identify their own national priorities and formulate and execute coherent economic and development policies and strategies to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Encourages* least developed countries to benefit from the services and projects provided by all relevant multilateral entities, including the United Nations Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, and

invites member States, relevant international organizations, foundations and the private sector to provide voluntary financial and in-kind resources in order to enhance their capacity and effectiveness;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to assist least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in Asia and the Pacific in building their capacity and attracting investment to implement relevant action plans and attain internationally agreed development goals;

(b) To continue to analyse the sustainable development challenges faced by these groups of countries and to submit a report containing the main findings of and key messages arising from the analysis for consideration by the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Small Island Developing States during the ministerial segment of the sessions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

(c) To intensify regional assistance programmes, using existing resources, to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States on sustainable connectivity and reforestation initiatives aimed at reducing vulnerability to climate change;

(d) To encourage international development partners to direct their attention and support to assisting least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in collecting and analysing disaster risk data, transferring technology on voluntary basis and on mutually agreed terms, and increasing funding within existing resources for disaster mitigation in order to successfully implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the Sustainable Development Goals;

(e) To submit to the Commission at its eighty-first session a report on the progress made in implementing the present resolution.

*9th plenary meeting
19 May 2023*