



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
8 August 2016

Original: English

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## Seventy-first session

Item 22 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the  
second United Nations Conference on Landlocked  
Developing Countries**

## **Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024**

### **Report of the Secretary-General**

#### *Summary*

The present report is submitted pursuant to resolution 70/217, in which the General Assembly requested that the Secretary-General submit, at its seventy-first session, a report on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024. The report provides a review of the progress made to date, sets out the major challenges encountered and includes recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action.

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\* A/71/150.



## **I. Introduction**

1. With a combined population of more than 470 million, landlocked developing countries constitute one of the most vulnerable groups of countries around the world. Spread over four continents, these 32 countries form a diverse group that collectively finds it difficult to overcome the challenges imposed by their geographical location and remoteness from the nearest sea ports. Owing to the long distances from the sea and the necessary transit through neighbouring countries, coupled with cumbersome border-crossing procedures and inadequate transit and transport infrastructure, landlocked developing countries face disproportionately high transport and trade transaction costs. Consequently, their competitiveness is eroded and economic growth is affected. In addition, these countries exhibit low productive capacity and rely on a limited number of products, in particular primary commodities with little value added for their export earnings, leaving them vulnerable to external shocks, including commodity price fluctuations.

2. The Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024 was adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/137. The present report provides an update on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, focusing on the six key priority areas.

3. Ways to foster coherence with the follow-up and review arrangements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are addressed in section II of the present report, and an overview of the recent socioeconomic performance of landlocked developing countries is presented in section III. The status of implementation under the priority areas is provided in section IV, and information from the follow-up and review is set out in section V. Section VI contains conclusions and policy recommendations. The report was prepared on the basis of information provided by United Nations system entities, Member States and international and regional organizations. An annex containing statistical tables is attached.

## **II. Fostering coherence in the follow-up, implementation and review of the Vienna Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global development frameworks**

4. The outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, was adopted in 2015 as a new, ambitious and universal development agenda to be implemented over the next 15 years. In its 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, the 2030 Agenda encompasses the three pillars of sustainable development, namely, economic development, social development and environmental development. The 2030 Agenda is a transformative agenda that emphasizes equality and inclusiveness and underscores the principle of leaving no one behind. The means of implementation targets under Goal 17 and under each Goal are key to realizing the 2030 Agenda. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supporting and complementing it and helping to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies

and actions. The full implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is critical for the realization of the Goals.

5. Both the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognize the special needs of landlocked developing countries. As stated in the 2030 Agenda, the Vienna Programme of Action is integral to the 2030 Agenda. All 17 Sustainable Development Goals are relevant for these countries in their pursuit of sustainable development. In addition, the 2030 Agenda contains specific references to landlocked developing countries in various paragraphs, including in three Goals: Goal 7 on energy, Goal 9 on infrastructure and sustainable industrialization and Goal 10 on reducing inequality. The Vienna Programme of Action addresses the specific needs of these countries, and its effective implementation is instrumental for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

6. It is vital for landlocked developing countries to implement the Vienna Programme of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals in a coherent and integrated manner, including by prioritizing financing, capacity-building and technology, in order to effectively achieve the goals of both programmes. Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action coherently into national development planning is important, as doing so will help capitalize on the synergies required for effective implementation. There is also a need to ensure integrated monitoring of the 2030 Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action, with the Programme indicators used to complement the Goal indicators. Landlocked developing countries will require strengthened capacities for data collection and analysis in order to effectively implement, monitor and report on their progress with regard to the 2030 Agenda and the Vienna Programme of Action. The high-level political forum on sustainable development was mandated to play the central role in overseeing follow-up and review processes at the global level for the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. At the 2016 session of the high-level political forum, particular focus was placed on countries in special situations, including landlocked developing countries. It is important that the high-level political forum continue to review the special needs of these countries to ensure that they are not left behind.

7. The launch of the Global Infrastructure Forum, led by the multilateral development banks and held in Washington, D.C. on 16 April 2016, is an important follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for landlocked developing countries. It is important that the Forum address the infrastructure needs of these countries in a focused manner.

8. Other global development frameworks that are relevant to landlocked developing countries and vital for their achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals include the Paris Agreement, concluded at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Under the Paris Agreement, it was resolved that the provision of urgent and adequate finance, technology and capacity-building support to developing countries would be enhanced. In the Sendai Framework, it was noted that disaster-prone developing countries, especially those that are landlocked, warranted particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, which often greatly exceeded their capacity to respond to and recover from disasters. It was reaffirmed that such countries needed enhanced provision of

coordinated, sustained and adequate international support for disaster risk reduction. The fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), held in July 2016, was expected to adopt an outcome document relevant to these countries, as is an upcoming international conference on sustainable transport, to be held in November 2016. It is important that the Vienna Programme of Action and the additional global programmes be taken and implemented together to ensure that landlocked developing countries derive optimal support.

### **III. Overview of recent socioeconomic developments in landlocked developing countries**

9. In the last decade (2004-2014), the gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of landlocked developing countries averaged 7 per cent. Growth rates rose from 4 per cent in 2000 to a high of almost 10 per cent in 2006 and 2007, before falling back to 4.1 per cent in 2009. Following a recovery in the period 2010-2013, 11 countries showed GDP growth higher than 6 per cent in 2014. However, the overall GDP of landlocked developing countries grew by just 5.4 per cent that year, more than one full percentage point lower than in 2013. In 2015, only six such countries showed GDP growth higher than 7 per cent, while the average GDP of landlocked developing countries grew by just 3.7 per cent, more than 1.5 percentage points lower than in 2014.

10. On the basis of the human development index, only five landlocked developing countries rank among countries with high human development. According to the index, the average ranking of landlocked developing countries in 2014 was 0.56, with the highest in the group being 0.79 and the lowest being 0.35. While most such countries have improved their ranking in recent years, with two moving up by more than 10 ranks between 2009 and 2014, six have fallen in the ranks during the same period. In addition, out of the 44 countries with the lowest rankings and classified as low development countries, 16 were landlocked developing countries.

11. Despite efforts and commitments to tackle it, poverty remains prevalent in many landlocked developing countries, although it has been on the decline since 2002. The proportion of the population of these countries living below the international poverty line of \$1.90 per day (in 2011 purchasing power parity prices) declined from 48.6 per cent in 2002 to 30.5 per cent in 2012. There are, however, large variations among the countries. In nine such countries, half of the population lives below the aforementioned poverty line. Greater efforts will be needed in order to reduce poverty and eradicate extreme poverty over the next 15 years.

12. Landlocked developing countries are characterized by a high prevalence of food insecurity and are exposed to higher and more volatile food prices. For instance, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), over the period 2000-2013, the FAO Food Price Index was 73 per cent higher in these countries as compared with developing countries as a group. Landlocked developing countries remain particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, which is aggravating desertification and land degradation. These countries have gradually lost forest area as a proportion of total land area, dropping from 17.1 per cent in 2000 to 15.7 per cent in 2015, compared with the world

average of 30.7 per cent. In addition, most agricultural land in landlocked developing countries is arid and semi-arid, characterized by high variability in rainfall. Such challenges have devastating consequences for the livelihoods of poor families and undermine efforts made by landlocked developing countries to eradicate hunger. The prevalence of undernourishment in these countries was estimated at 22.7 per cent in the period 2014-2016, which is 76 per cent higher than the average of developing countries as a whole. More investment is needed, both public and private, from domestic and foreign sources, to support these countries in increasing their agricultural productivity.

13. With regard to health, landlocked developing countries have made some progress towards reducing under-five mortality rates from 139.7 per 1,000 live births in 2000 to 67.9 in 2015. However, the current rate is more than 46 per cent higher than the average for the developing world. Landlocked developing countries made progress in reducing the HIV incidence rate from 2.13 per 1,000 uninfected people in 2000 to 0.84 in 2015. However, despite this improvement, these countries still have the highest incidence rate, at more than double the average rate of the developing world. Rates of malaria incidence in landlocked developing countries are also double the average of the developing world.

14. Landlocked developing countries have made steady social progress during the period 2000-2014, reflected particularly in overall improvements in both primary and secondary school enrolment indicators. This progress notwithstanding, more remains to be done. With regard to gender equality and empowering all women and girls, these countries have made progress on the related indicators over the period 2000-2015, in particular on women's representation in national parliaments.

15. Access to improved drinking water sources and sanitation remains low in many landlocked developing countries. Data on the level of water stress show that these countries have higher level of water stress when compared with the world average or the average for developing regions.

## **IV. Status of implementation of the priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action**

### **A. Priority 1: fundamental transit policy issues**

16. Landlocked developing countries, transit countries and development partners are making efforts to implement the actions specified in the Vienna Programme of Action that will help towards the achievement of the specific objectives of the priority area on fundamental transit policy issues. Since the previous report (A/70/305), more landlocked developing countries and transit countries have ratified the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade Facilitation. Details are presented under priority 3. In 2015, one landlocked developing country, the Niger, and two transit countries, Thailand and Argentina, became parties to the revised Kyoto Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures. Also in 2015, Azerbaijan, a landlocked developing country, acceded to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail, and in July 2016, Pakistan, a transit country, acceded to the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets.

17. While progress is being made to ratify relevant international conventions, more needs to be done. Both landlocked developing countries and transit countries face challenges such as a lack of awareness about the legal instruments, limited information on the potential benefits of ratification, information on conventions not being available in a language that can be easily utilized, cumbersome domestication processes, a lack of sharing of experience and capacity constraints.

18. More work is needed to create greater awareness and understanding of the implications of accession to the international conventions through capacity-building among policymakers and administrators, in-depth studies on the costs and benefits of joining the conventions, and guidelines for the implementation of the conventions. Mainstreaming of the conventions at the national level is also important, as it will allow for their incorporation in national development plans and budgetary allocations.

19. In Asia, the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports entered into force in April 2016. The treaty establishing the Eurasian Economic Union came into force in January 2015 among Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation. The treaty governing the accession of Armenia to the Union came into force in January 2015, while that of Kyrgyzstan came into effect in August 2015.

20. In 2015, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal signed a motor vehicle agreement that would further improve transit processes for landlocked Nepal and Bhutan. Once implemented, the agreement is expected to reduce costly and time-consuming trans-shipment of people and goods at border crossings.

21. Also in 2015, the Heads of State and Governments of the African Union adopted a continental development strategy entitled “Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want”. The African Union has also adopted a decision in which it called on countries to introduce a 30-day visa on arrival for all citizens of African countries. Countries such as Ghana and Rwanda have taken the lead by relaxing visa restrictions and offering a visa-on-arrival option for all Africans. It was agreed at the January 2016 summit that African Union e-passports would be issued, with the aim of facilitating free movement of persons, goods and services around the continent.

22. The intergovernmental process towards the computerization of the international road transport customs document (TIR carnet) procedure, eTIR, is under way.

## **B. Priority 2: infrastructure development and maintenance**

23. Landlocked developing countries and transit countries, in cooperation with their development partners, continue to make efforts to expand and upgrade their road transport and border crossing infrastructure. For example, in 2014 and 2015, Mongolia paved 18,381 km of road connecting several provinces that border China and the Russian Federation. The Government of Zambia continues to implement the Link Zambia 8000 road project. Armenia is implementing its North-South road corridor investment programme and improving the M6 Armenia-Georgia border transit road. Various road connectivity projects in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal are being implemented to improve parts of the Asian Highway network. Despite these efforts, more needs to be done to close the gaps.

24. There were no significant changes between 2013 and 2014 in the data on railway infrastructure for the 13 landlocked developing countries that have available data. In 2014, air passenger volume was extremely low, with landlocked developing countries making up only 0.8 per cent of the global total. Similar patterns were found for freight volumes in air transport, which averaged only 0.9 per cent of the global total.

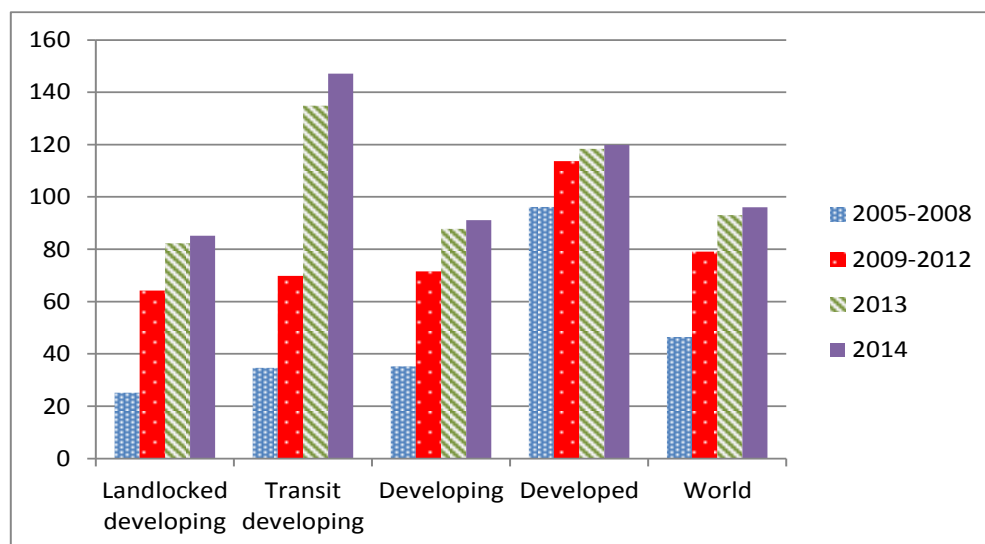
25. With regard to energy, the average proportion of the population having access to modern energy in landlocked developing countries is 55 per cent. However, this data mask the disparities between countries, with nine having reached universal access, while eight are trailing behind the others, with an access rate lower than 20 per cent. According to recent data by the International Energy Agency, more than 300 million people in landlocked developing countries — or two thirds of their total population — rely on traditional use of biomass for cooking, underscoring the urgent need for improved access to clean and modern cooking energy.

26. The average renewable energy share of landlocked developing countries in the total final energy consumption category decreased from 44.3 per cent in 2000 to 29.2 per cent in 2012. More efforts are needed to promote greater use of renewable energy sources.

27. Landlocked developing countries continue to experience growth in information and communications technology (ICT), in particular mobile communications, as shown in figure I.

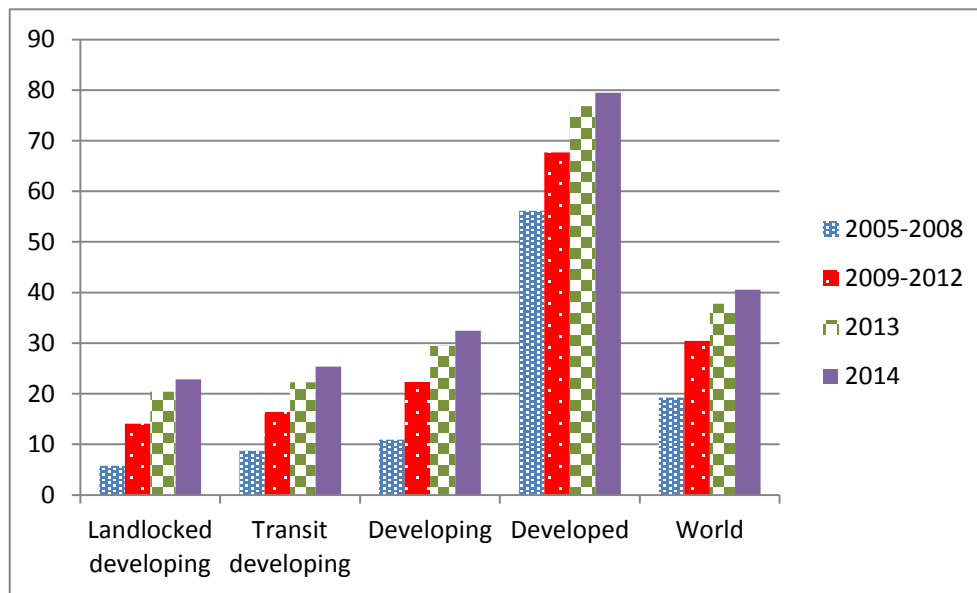
28. In contrast, access to the Internet, although increasing steadily, remained low in the majority of landlocked developing countries, with an average 20 out of 100 people being Internet users in 2014, compared with 22 out of 100 people in transit countries (see figure II). This average also masks important disparities among landlocked developing countries. More efforts are required in order to promote open and affordable access to the Internet for all and to address the digital divide.

Figure I  
Mobile cellular subscriptions (per 100 people)



Source: International Telecommunication Union statistics.

Figure II  
**Internet users (per 100 people)**



Source: International Telecommunication Union statistics.

29. Many landlocked developing countries support their infrastructure development and maintenance using funding from road-user charges, such as toll gates and fuel levies, or main budget allocations. Mobilization of additional resources for infrastructure development is critical, to complement the domestic efforts made by these countries. The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) has ongoing infrastructure projects with Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Paraguay amounting to \$605.5 million in the transport sector and \$229 million in the energy sector. Furthermore, IADB has a total of \$435 million in the pipeline, under its private sector lending arm, geared towards infrastructure development for landlocked developing countries. In 2015, under the framework of the Union of South American Nations, Paraguay received a loan from CAF Development Bank of Latin America towards improving connectivity with neighbouring countries.

30. The new Silk Road Fund was established by China in December 2014, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank was formalized in 2015. In March 2016, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) entered into an agreement with the Japan International Cooperation Agency to establish a new fund to support private infrastructure investments across Asia. This fund will be capitalized by \$1.5 billion in equity from the Agency and will be managed by the Private Sector Operations department of ADB. With regard to Africa, the Africa50 Fund was created under the African Development Bank (AfDB) in 2015. At its constitutive session, 20 countries and AfDB subscribed for an initial aggregate amount of \$830 million in share capital. The Africa50 Fund started developing and financing projects at the end of 2015.

31. Between July 2014 and May 2016, 28 new lending projects related to the Vienna Programme of Action were approved by or submitted for approval to the World Bank. The total loan values for the projects stood at \$1.6 billion in fiscal year



2015 and \$1.2 billion in fiscal year 2016. The focus of the projects includes trade facilitation, road connectivity, electricity access expansion and regional communications infrastructure. Half of the loan portfolio focuses on Africa, in terms of both value and number of projects, followed by Europe and Central Asia. The majority of loans to landlocked developing countries by loan value fall in the transport sector.

32. Development partners on a bilateral level have provided support for infrastructure development. For example, Austria has supported the construction of hydropower stations in Bhutan and Nepal (after the earthquake), while the United States Agency for International Development is providing support for a hydropower development project in Nepal and road construction in Afghanistan, and Italy is providing support for transport infrastructure development in Afghanistan.

### **C. Priority 3: international trade and trade facilitation**

33. In 2014, the average ratio of trade to GDP was 68 per cent for landlocked developing countries, while the world average was 58 per cent. While this signifies that trade is critically important for landlocked developing countries, their share of global exports fell in 2015 to just 0.96 per cent. Before this decline, the export share had more than doubled from 0.5 per cent in the 1990s, levelling out to an average of 1.21 per cent between 2011 and 2014. The majority of these countries, however, are still marginalized with respect to international trade. For example, just four landlocked developing countries in Central Asia account for 55 per cent of the group's total merchandise exports, while 20 such countries account for no more than 2 per cent each.

34. Merchandise exports from landlocked developing countries were estimated at \$158 billion in 2015, registering a fall of 30 per cent over 2014. Such a dramatic decline was caused by the collapse in commodity prices and sluggish demand. This was the second year that landlocked developing country exports fell, following a 2 per cent fall in 2014. Merchandise imports to these countries also fell in 2014 and 2015, reaching an estimated \$186 billion in 2015.

35. Merchandise exports from landlocked developing countries are highly concentrated in just a handful of products, in particular raw commodities. With a concentration index of 0.36 in 2014, these countries have a greater export product concentration than their transit neighbours and developed countries. Moreover, export concentration has increased over the years. Landlocked developing countries need to undertake efforts to diversify their exports in order to reduce their vulnerability and enhance their competitiveness.

36. Trade facilitation is one of the areas in which a lot of progress was made between 2004 and 2014. An important step towards ensuring a common platform for the implementation of trade facilitation measures at the global level was the adoption of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation at the ninth WTO Ministerial Conference, held in Bali in 2013. The Agreement sets out a series of measures to expedite the passage of goods across borders, including ensuring freedom of transit, with the main objectives being to reduce bureaucratic obstacles trade and decrease trade costs. One of the innovative elements of the Agreement is that it strengthens the delivery of technical assistance and capacity-building support for developing

countries, based on the capacity of each country. In addition, the standards set out in the Agreement are subject to binding WTO trade disciplines.

37. The full implementation of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation has the potential to reduce the trade costs of WTO member States by 14.3 per cent on average. The reduction for landlocked developing countries is estimated to be 15.4 per cent on average, with 19.3 per cent and 11.7 per cent, respectively, in manufactured and agricultural products. Simplification of trade documents, streamlining of border procedures and automation of the border process appear to have the greatest impact on trade costs. Full implementation of the Agreement can reduce the average time required to import by more than one and a half days (47 per cent reduction) and the time to export by almost two days (91 per cent reduction).

38. As of 5 July 2016, 85 countries had ratified the Agreement, including 10 landlocked developing countries and 12 transit countries. As of 21 June 2016, WTO had received 87 notifications of category A commitments, including 15 from landlocked developing countries and 18 from transit countries. It is important for landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries to indicate their capacity-building needs by submitting notifications under category C, so they can take full advantage of the technical assistance and capacity-building facilities available to them. As of 21 June 2016, five notifications under categories B and C were received, including one from a landlocked developing country.

39. The provisions of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation call on each Member State to establish and maintain a national committee or body on trade facilitation. A number of landlocked developing countries are establishing or strengthening national trade facilitation committees in order to improve facilitation and domestic coordination and implementation of the Agreement, in addition to certain areas of the Vienna Programme of Action.

40. Many landlocked developing countries and transit countries, with support from development partners, are continuing to implement initiatives to speed up transit transport and border-crossing procedures, including one-stop border posts, electronic single-window systems, electronic payment systems for customs duties and taxes, TIR carnets, an automated system for customs data (ASYCUDA), regional third-party motor vehicle insurance and electronic cargo tracking systems. National single window systems are currently operational, under construction or being planned in all regions featuring landlocked developing countries, with 22 such countries already using ASYCUDA.

41. Despite positive changes in this area, landlocked developing countries still bear a considerably high cost of trade. WTO estimates that trade costs for these countries are equivalent to applying an ad valorem tariff of 260 per cent to international trade costs. Average trade costs for landlocked developing countries are also 1.5 times higher than those of transit countries. The Trading Across Borders indicators of the World Bank show that, on average, landlocked developing countries are also characterized by a higher number of documents and longer wait times required for export or import compared with transit countries.

#### **D. Priority 4: regional integration and cooperation**

42. The participation of landlocked developing countries in regional integration frameworks is critical for increased access to markets, connectivity, enhanced

competitiveness, harmonization of policies and rise in trade and investment. Based on notifications submitted to WTO, landlocked developing countries are party to, on average, 3.8 regional trade agreements, with the numbers ranging from 0 to 11 among each of these countries.<sup>1</sup> Another measure of integration is the number of regional investment agreements to which landlocked developing countries are party. As of 7 June 2016, landlocked developing countries had signed, on average, 21 bilateral investment treaties each, with the numbers ranging from 0 to 50 agreements signed per country and an average of 14 in force. This is a slight improvement over the data collected as at the end of March 2015. Landlocked developing countries also signed, on average, seven other international investment agreements each.

43. The level of trade integration varies by region. For example, intracontinental imports are estimated at 4.3 per cent of the GDP of Africa, 6.7 per cent in the Americas, 17.9 per cent in Asia and 21 per cent in Europe. In the Africa region, the share of intra-African exports stood at a low level of 15.7 per cent of the total in 2014. The East African Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) regions, which contain 11 of the 16 African landlocked developing countries, report relatively higher shares of intraregional trade compared with other regions. In the case of Asia and the Pacific region, intraregional trade has slowed down, largely due to sluggish growth in China. Trade among Asian landlocked developing countries themselves is very low; however, their trade levels tend to be high particularly with large neighbours such as China, Russia, India and Thailand. In Latin American, intraregional trade among landlocked developing countries is relatively high, representing 55 per cent of total trade for Bolivia and 49 per cent for Paraguay in 2014.

44. In 2015, the Agreement for the Establishment of a Tripartite Free Trade Area was signed by member and partner States of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, EAC and SADC, although a number of elements of the Agreement remain to be finalized. The launch of negotiations for a continental free trade area is expected to contribute to the industrialization of African countries, promote a rise in regional value chains and support structural transformation by facilitating intra-African trade. The regional integration index, developed by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), AfDB and the African Union Commission, tracks the status of integration among regional economic communities on the dimensions of trade integration, productive integration, macroeconomic policy convergence, free movement of persons and regional infrastructure. According to the index, three landlocked developing countries (Botswana, Uganda and Zambia) have been ranked as deeply and broadly integrated, scoring high overall and in several dimensions. The performance of other countries suggests that there is still room for improvement.

## **E. Priority 5: structural economic transformation**

45. Structural economic transformation is a process that involves the reorientation of economic activity from low value-added and low productivity activities and

<sup>1</sup> WTO statistics on regional trade agreements are based on notification requirements rather than on the actual number of such agreements. Thus, a regional trade agreement that includes both goods and services is counted as two notifications — one for goods and one for services — even though it actually consists of one physical agreement.

sectors to those with higher value-added and higher productivity levels. It is basically a transformative shift from traditional sectors and activities to new ones that include higher technology content. Structural transformation is critical for the successful integration of landlocked developing countries into the global economy and the achievement of sustained, broad-based economic growth that creates employment.

46. Between 2000 and 2015, the value-added of the agriculture sector as a percentage of GDP in landlocked developing countries declined by an average of about 7 percentage points, to 14.6 per cent. Over the same period, the value-added of the services sector in these countries was high, rising by 3 percentage points on average, while the value-added of the manufacturing sector, historically at the core of economic growth and transformation in addition to employment generation, declined from 8.9 to 6.9 per cent of GDP. In addition, the share of manufactured goods in total exports from landlocked developing countries decreased from 21 per cent in 2000 to 13 per cent in 2014, while around 70 per cent of imports to these countries were manufactured products. Furthermore, available employment data for landlocked developing countries show a higher proportion of the working population employed in the agriculture or services sector rather than in industry. This reflects the limited industrial content of exports from these countries. The difficulties experienced by landlocked developing countries in moving up the value chains are further illustrated by the low and stagnant technology content of their exports. The limited data show that high-technology content as a percentage of manufactured exports is less than 10 per cent for 15 of the 20 landlocked developing countries for which data are available.

47. As indicated above, landlocked developing countries rely heavily on a limited number of mineral resources and low-value agricultural products for their exports. Primary commodities, including fuels, accounted for 80 per cent of merchandise exports by landlocked developing countries in 2014, up from 67 per cent in 2000. These countries are more commodity-dependent when compared with other developing countries, as primary commodities accounted for more than half of the exports of 27 out of 32 landlocked developing countries in the period 2011-2013. In contrast, for global exports, these commodities accounted for just 32 per cent in 2014. Such heavy dependence on commodities makes these countries highly vulnerable to commodity price and demand volatility, further exacerbated by their low productive capacities and structural weaknesses. Since services are not as sensitive to the challenges of distance and delays as merchandise, and since they account for just 15 per cent of exports from landlocked developing countries, there is great potential for these countries to promote growth in the services sector.

48. A move from traditional economic activities into higher value-added activities and high-employment generating sectors, such as manufacturing, agro-industry and modern services, should be promoted in landlocked developing countries. In order to ensure more opportunities for value-addition, these countries need to set up an enabling environment for cooperation with the private sector and for attracting foreign investment. They also need sufficient infrastructure, institutions and technical knowledge to compete in value chains or at least given segments of value chains. In a positive move, several landlocked developing countries have been realigning their national strategies with a view to diversifying their economies towards non-traditional exports.

## F. Priority 6: means of implementation

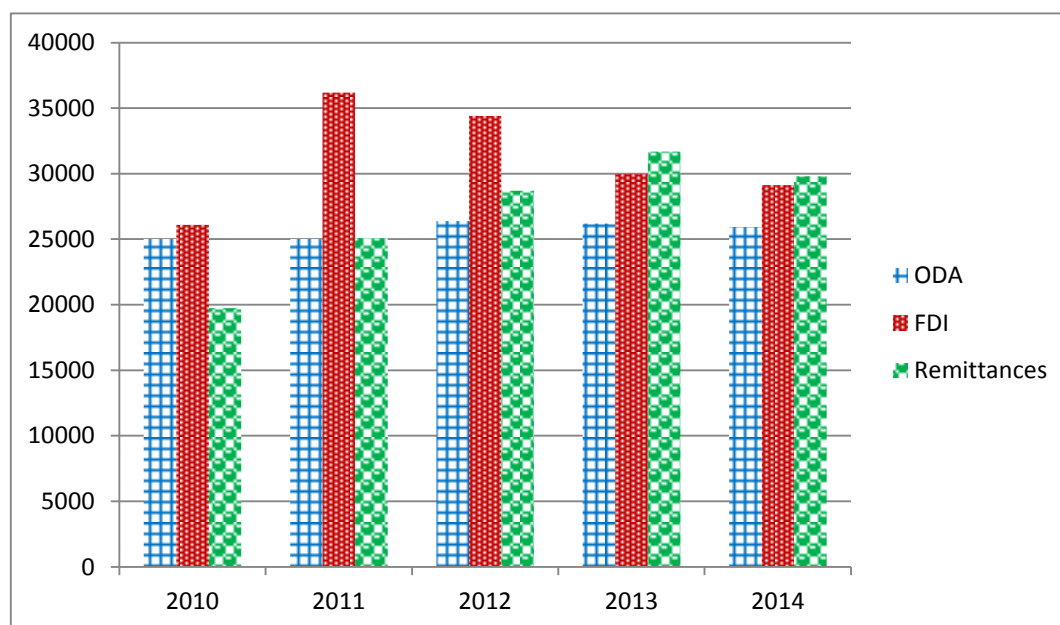
49. While the Vienna Programme of Action recognizes that the development of any country is the primary responsibility of the country itself, it underscores the importance of strengthened and expanded partnerships among landlocked developing countries, their transit neighbours, their development partners and other stakeholders for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action.

50. Figure III shows inflows of official development assistance (ODA), foreign direct investment (FDI) and remittances to landlocked developing countries between 2010 and 2014. In 2014, net ODA to such countries decreased slightly by 1.1 per cent over 2013, from \$26.2 billion to \$25.9 billion. Two countries (Afghanistan and Ethiopia) continue to dominate ODA receipts, accounting for 32 per cent of total receipts. ODA remained the main source of external financing, accounting for 10 per cent or more of gross national income in 2014 in eight landlocked developing countries, and between 5 per cent and 9.9 per cent in seven such countries.

Figure III

### Official development assistance, foreign direct investment and remittances to landlocked developing countries, 2010-2014

(Millions of United States dollars)



Source: Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; calculations based on data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, UNCTAD and the World Bank.

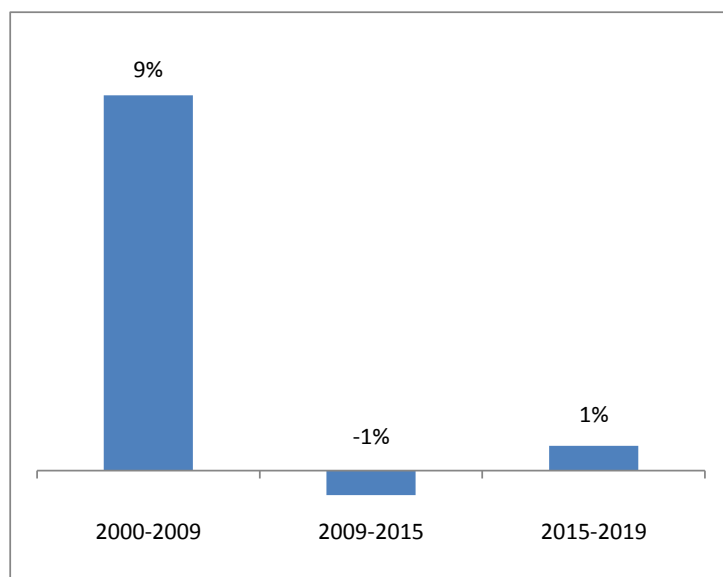
51. According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), allocations of concessional finance<sup>2</sup> to landlocked developing countries

<sup>2</sup> Concessional finance covers concessional outflows from bilateral sources, namely, bilateral gross official development assistance, as well as gross multilateral concessional outflows to developing countries.

represented about 22 per cent of total concessional finance to all developing countries in 2014. Concessional finance to landlocked developing countries represented 55 per cent of their total external finance, compared with 18 per cent for all developing countries, showing a high level of dependence of the former group on concessional financing. Since 2000, concessional finance going to the landlocked developing countries has increased substantially. However, excluding the two largest recipient countries, the growth in concessional finance to these countries is in line with that of developing countries over the period 2007-2014. The biggest providers of concessional finance to landlocked developing countries, representing 45 per cent of this envelope, are the United States, the European Union and the World Bank International Development Association. Grants represented 82 per cent of the portfolio in 2014, the same percentage as in 2005.

52. Concessional finance going to landlocked developing countries takes the form of country programmable aid<sup>3</sup> and humanitarian and food aid. In 2014, programmable aid represented 81 per cent of aid received by this group of countries. Between 2000 and 2009, global programmable aid to landlocked developing countries increased substantially, at an annual average rate of 9 per cent, but since then has stagnated, hovering at around \$22 billion. Country programmable aid projections up to 2019 show little signs of increased ambitions (see figure IV).

Figure IV  
**Average annual country programmable aid growth to landlocked developing countries**

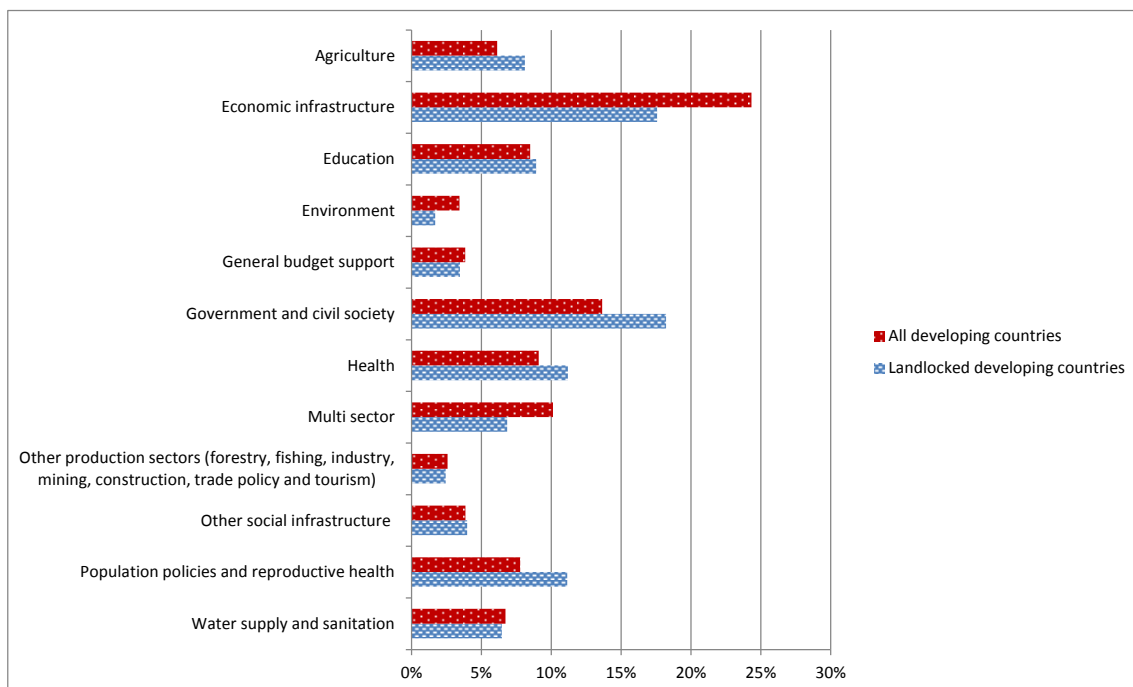


Source: OECD calculations and estimates based on Development Assistance Committee statistics.

<sup>3</sup> The contributions of donors to country-level development programmes are best captured by the concept of country programmable aid, which is a subset of gross bilateral ODA and is critical for the support of the Sustainable Development Goals. Country programmable aid tracks the proportion of ODA over which recipient countries have, or could have, significant say. Several studies have also shown that programmable aid is a good proxy of aid recorded at the country level (excluding humanitarian aid).

53. According to OECD analysis, sectoral distribution of country programmable aid (see figure V) reveals that landlocked developing countries receive a higher share of such aid than other developing countries in a number of sectors, such as government and civil society, or population policies and reproductive health. This is not the case for the economic infrastructure sector in general or the area of transport and storage in particular, both of which are specifically relevant to the special needs of landlocked developing countries. Looking forward, the major challenge will be to prevent further decline in ODA and to step up assistance for landlocked developing countries. At its high-level meeting in December 2014, the OECD Development Assistance Committee adopted a communiqué outlining its members' commitment to dedicating a higher proportion of total ODA to those countries most in need, specifically mentioning landlocked developing countries as one of the groups to be further supported. In February 2016, the Development Assistance Committee welcomed the ongoing efforts by the membership to develop and implement policy actions in accordance with the 2014 mandate on reversing the declining trend of ODA to countries most in need, including landlocked developing countries. In addition, there is a need for cooperation providers to pay particular attention to critical sectors for these countries, especially economic infrastructure.

Figure V  
Country programmable aid by sector, 2014



Source: OECD Development Assistance Committee statistics.

54. Aid for trade to landlocked developing countries doubled since 2002. Disbursements to these countries stood at \$6.49 billion in 2014, down from \$6.7 billion in 2013. Most support is going to economic infrastructure (56 per cent) and building productive capacities (41 per cent). Given the importance of aid for trade in addressing the special needs of landlocked developing countries, it is

important that disbursements are enhanced and funds allocated to regional or multi-country projects as well.

55. FDI inflows to landlocked developing countries fell slightly, by 3 per cent, to \$29.1 billion in 2014, as the global downturn in commodity prices severely reduced investment prospects in many of these economies. However, 67 per cent of FDI went to only four countries. It is important to find ways of helping all landlocked developing countries attract and retain foreign direct investment, especially through infrastructure development and the reduction of trade barriers.

56. Remittances to landlocked developing countries fell slightly, by 6 per cent, to \$29.8 billion in 2014. Remittances were higher than official development assistance in 10 such countries. However, the private nature of these funds restricts their use for public goods such as roads, railways and ports, and there is a need for effective policies to leverage the inflow of remittances to strategic sectors. Landlocked developing countries could explore the possibility of providing funds to match remittances and use the combined resources to finance public infrastructure projects in local communities, through special financial mechanisms and instruments.

## **V. Follow-up and review**

57. In the Vienna Programme of Action, Member States, in particular the landlocked developing countries and transit countries, are invited to mainstream the Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies. Upon request, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States has supported the Governments of Botswana and Mongolia in their national efforts to mainstream the Programme of Action into their national development strategies.

58. At its 2015 regular session, the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD adopted a decision to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into the UNCTAD work programme. At its thirty-sixth session, held in May 2016, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) adopted a resolution on the mainstreaming of the Programme of Action by its member States, as well as into its own work programme and those of the regional economic integration organizations and regional development banks (resolution 711(XXXVI)).

59. The Office of the High Representative continued to coordinate activities of the United Nations system to ensure the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. To that end, the Office of the High Representative convened two inter-agency consultative group meetings that facilitated better coordination in the follow-up and implementation of the Programme of Action and the development of indicators to monitor it. In 2015, in partnership with the Government of Zambia, the Office of the High Representative organized a high-level forum of Heads of State and Government of landlocked developing countries. The Office of the High Representative also organized a retreat on the implications of the new global development agenda for landlocked developing countries and an expert group meeting on improving transit cooperation, trade and trade facilitation for the benefit of these countries.



60. In cooperation with WTO, the Office of the High Representative organized the fifth meeting of trade ministers of landlocked developing countries, held in Geneva on 23 and 24 June 2016. Meeting participants adopted a ministerial declaration that highlighted how these countries can enhance their trade potential and overcome structural challenges to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction. In the declaration, participants called for, among other things, coordinated policies on infrastructure, logistics, technology and investment; concerted measures to support the efforts of landlocked developing countries to reduce commodity dependence; the rapid ratification of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation; and a dedicated WTO work programme for these countries.

61. In 2016, the Office of the High Representative, in partnership with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the International Road Transport Union, convened a series of events to raise the awareness of member States on the process, potential benefits and implications of accession to international conventions related to the facilitation of transport and trade and to urge them to participate in the 2016 treaty event to be held in September 2016.

62. The Office of the High Representative continued to support the landlocked developing country group in promoting its agenda, which among other results, led to the priorities of these countries being reflected in the new development frameworks. The Office of the High Representative also undertook research and analytical work on key issues related to priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action.

63. ECA is undertaking a continent-wide initiative to strengthen the capacity of member States to promote the use of renewable energy and provide them with capacity-building support on trade facilitation, infrastructure development, international trade, regional integration, road safety and aviation and tourism policies. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, in cooperation with the African Union Commission, ECA and OECD, sensitized African countries on the theme of leveraging pension funds for financing infrastructure development in Africa. ECE undertook a series of national needs assessment studies on both behind-the-border and at-the-border procedural and regulatory barriers to trade and offered training on trade facilitation to landlocked developing countries. ECE and the International Road Transport Union launched a pilot project on the computerized international road transport customs procedure, eTIR, that would serve as a basis for identifying any potential drawbacks in the system before its complete operationalization.

64. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is providing capacity-building support to landlocked developing countries and transit countries for their accession to and implementation of international conventions, trade facilitation, regional integration and trade, and the promotion of economic diversification. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is undertaking analytical work on current transport infrastructure and logistics policies in the region, while promoting integrated and sustainable regional policy on logistics and mobility in South America. ECA, ECE, ECLAC and ESCAP, in collaboration with OECD, conducted global surveys on trade facilitation and paperless trade. They also provided technical assistance.

65. In 2015, UNCTAD published research papers on facilitating the participation of landlocked developing countries in commodity value chains and on trade

facilitation and development. UNCTAD continues to provide technical support to these countries on commodity diversification and value addition, on the development and implementation of trade strategies that are conducive to poverty reduction and on capitalization of diaspora engagement in national development.

66. The International Trade Centre is helping landlocked developing countries to improve the ability of small and medium-sized enterprises to compete and to address non-tariff barriers. In 2015, the International Telecommunication Union provided capacity-building support to these countries through workshops on broadband service quality with respect to end users and on green ICTs using smart grids. The International Civil Aviation Organization supported member States, including landlocked developing countries, in developing a harmonized regulatory framework in air transport and infrastructure development.

67. Through capacity-building workshops and advisory services, the United Nations Environment Programme is supporting landlocked developing countries in adopting no- and low-emissions transport policies and in promoting greater use of energy efficiency measures that lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and improved air quality. FAO is providing technical support to landlocked developing countries on trade and market development; the preparation and implementation of large investment operations; projects to increase the production and productivity of crops, livestock and fisheries; and the strengthening of food and nutrition security.

68. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is supporting Member States in integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into their development strategies. It is also providing technical assistance on trade facilitation, helping to promote export competitiveness and assisting entrepreneurs in building a viable business. In addition, together with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, UNDP helped landlocked developing countries to prepare national voluntary presentations on their progress towards the Goals (Bolivia in 2014, Kyrgyzstan and Zambia in 2015 and Uganda in 2016).

69. WTO continues to work on receiving ratifications of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation and on preparing for its entry into force. WTO provided training to its member States on national trade facilitation committees and on the implementation of the Agreement and is implementing the 2016-2017 Aid for Trade work programme under the theme of promoting connectivity. The World Customs Organization is converting its Transit Handbook into transit guidelines that would include clear guiding principles and recommended practices for its member States to use. In 2015, the Customs Organization held several capacity-building and training workshops for requesting customs administrations, as well as regional workshops on transit issues in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

70. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe provided technical assistance on border-crossing facilitation and good governance in customs and on connectivity for commerce and investment. The Common Fund for Commodities is providing support to landlocked developing countries on the development of policy measures and actions that facilitate value addition to commodities and beneficial integration into regional and global commodity value chains. The International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries is operating under interim management while it waits to be fully operationalized when the multilateral agreement on its establishment enters into force. In 2015, the Think Tank prepared a

report entitled “Multilateral trade negotiations and LLDCs: a handbook for negotiators and practitioners of LLDCs.”

## **VI. Conclusions and recommendations**

71. Landlocked developing countries are working towards mainstreaming the Vienna Programme of Action into their national strategies. These countries may consider creating a high-level national multi-stakeholder body in order to give strong impetus to coherently implement all Programme priorities with medium-term plans and programmes. Because these priorities are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, only high-level attention and a coordinated multi-stakeholder approach will be able to help landlocked developing countries overcome their constraints. Similarly, transit developing countries may also consider mainstreaming the Programme of Action to ensure its effective implementation. Development partners are urged to consider, through South-South and triangular cooperation, the need to give priority to landlocked developing countries and to align their support with the priorities of these countries themselves.

72. Landlocked developing countries are encouraged to mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals in their development strategies in a way that fosters coherence with the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.

73. In order to bridge the infrastructure and finance gaps, landlocked developing countries may develop and embed infrastructure investment development plans in their national development strategies and strengthen their domestic enabling environment. The international community should consider the need to provide financial and technical support for these countries to translate such plans into concrete implementable projects, particularly with regard to the preparation of feasibility studies, negotiation of contracts and management of projects.

74. Landlocked developing countries, in cooperation with transit developing countries where appropriate, may need to continue to develop and implement trade facilitation measures to simplify border crossing operations, implement joint border management systems and harmonize customs and other border crossing rules, procedures and documentation, with a view to ensuring faster and cheaper cross-border trade in line with global facilitation standards. Landlocked developing countries and transit countries might consider establishing a high-level coordinating body to facilitate smooth and efficient transit for the former group.

75. All WTO member States that have not yet done so, in particular landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries, are encouraged to ratify the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation and undertake the necessary measures to effectively implement it. Landlocked developing countries may need to articulate their needs in a holistic manner in order to receive the technical and capacity-building assistance they require, to be provided by the development partners and international organizations.

76. Landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries may need to enhance regional integration and cooperation by strengthening intraregional trade, engaging in bilateral and multilateral trade and transit-related agreements, developing regional infrastructure and harmonizing policies. This should help turn landlocked countries into land-linked countries.

77. To facilitate structural transformation, landlocked developing countries may need to employ national policies and measures aimed at the development of industries and diversification of their economies, by shifting away from commodities and low-value agricultural products to higher value-added activities and sectors, such as manufacturing, agro-industry and modern services, that also have potential to generate higher levels of employment. There is a need to consider developing a well-articulated strategy and action plans, to be implemented through close coordination of private sector and other stakeholders. Development partners should provide technical, financial and capacity-building assistance to support landlocked developing countries towards creating the enabling environment required for cooperation with the private sector and attracting foreign investment and towards developing the infrastructure, institutions and technical knowledge necessary to compete in value chains and international markets.

78. The international community should consider supporting landlocked developing countries in developing policies to address the challenges presented by land degradation, desertification, deforestation and climate change. This should be done in an integrated manner so as to enhance agricultural production and food security.

79. Landlocked developing countries may need to emphasize their need for increased donor support, in particular towards areas that are closely linked to the special development challenges that stem from their landlockedness and geographical isolation from major global markets. They should be supported in economic infrastructure development, smooth transit facilitation, enhancing diversification and mitigating the impacts of climate change and desertification.

80. Landlocked developing countries are encouraged to accede to or ratify, in an expeditious manner, all the conventions and agreements that are directly relevant to promoting trade facilitation, transit facilitation, efficient border crossings and the movement of goods and services between countries. These countries are further encouraged to ratify the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries in order to bring it into full operation.

## Annex

## Statistical tables

Table 1  
Gross domestic product, rate of growth and human development index

|  | <i>GDP (constant 2010 prices,<br/>millions of United States dollars)</i> |         | <i>GDP growth<br/>(annual percentage)</i> | <i>GDP per capita, PPP<br/>(constant 2011 prices, United States dollars)</i> |        | <i>Human development<br/>index</i> |
|--|--|---------|---|--|--------|------------------------------------|
|  | 2010   | 2015    | 2015                                      | 2010   | 2015   | 2014                               |
| <i>Landlocked developing countries</i> |  |         |   |  |        |                                    |
| Afghanistan                            | 15 937   | 20 294  | 1.52                                      | 1 663  | 1 820  | 0.465                              |
| Armenia                                | 9 260  | 11 446  | 3.00                                      | 6 508  | 7 899  | 0.733                              |
| Azerbaijan                             | 52 903   | 59 025  | 1.10                                      | 15 950   | 16 695 | 0.751                              |
| Bhutan                                 | 1 585  | 1 999   | 3.25                                      | 6 486  | 7 601  | 0.605                              |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of)       | 19 650   | 25 445  | 3.96                                      | 5 407  | 6 476  | 0.662                              |
| Botswana                               | 12 787   | 16 019  | -0.25                                     | 13 120   | 14 876 | 0.698                              |
| Burkina Faso                           | 8 980  | 11 419  | 3.98                                      | 1 422  | 1 562  | 0.402                              |
| Burundi                                | 2 027  | 2 344   | -2.54                                     | 708  | 693    | 0.400                              |
| Central African Republic               | 1 986  | 1 385   | 5.49                                      | 889  | 562    | 0.350                              |
| Chad                                   | 10 658   | 13 359  | 1.80                                      | 1 924  | 2 044  | 0.392                              |
| Ethiopia                               | 29 934   | 48 331  | 9.61                                      | 1 076  | 1 530  | 0.442                              |
| Kazakhstan                             | 148 047  | 185 031 | 1.20                                      | 20 945   | 24 353 | 0.788                              |
| Kyrgyzstan                             | 4 794  | 6 059   | 3.47                                      | 2 790  | 3 225  | 0.655                              |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic       | 7 181  | 10 458  | 7.00                                      | 3 985  | 5 341  | 0.575                              |
| Lesotho                                | 2 187  | ..      | ..  | 2 233  | ..     | 0.497                              |
| Malawi                                 | 6 960  | 8 511   | 2.95                                      | 1 061  | 1 113  | 0.445                              |
| Mali                                   | 10 679   | 15 885  | 7.61                                      | 1 783  | 2 285  | 0.419                              |
| Mongolia                               | 7 189  | 11 671  | 2.30                                      | 7 709  | 11 471 | 0.727                              |
| Nepal                                  | 16 003   | 19 669  | 3.36                                      | 1 997  | 2 313  | 0.548                              |
| Niger                                  | 5 719  | 7 638   | 3.61                                      | 821  | 897    | 0.348                              |
| Paraguay                               | 20 031   | 25 393  | 3.01                                      | 7 290  | 8 644  | 0.679                              |
| Republic of Moldova                    | 5 812  | 7 005   | -0.50                                     | 3 925  | 4 742  | 0.693                              |
| Rwanda                                 | 5 699  | 8 007   | 6.90                                      | 1 329  | 1 655  | 0.483                              |
| South Sudan                            | 15 727   | 8 856   | -6.35                                     | 3 794  | 1 741  | 0.467                              |
| Swaziland                              | 3 528  | 3 949   | 1.66                                      | 7 642  | 7 930  | 0.531                              |

| <i>Landlocked developing countries</i>          | <i>GDP (constant 2010 prices, millions of United States dollars)</i> |               | <i>GDP growth (annual percentage)</i> | <i>GDP per capita, PPP (constant 2011 prices, United States dollars)</i> |              | <i>Human development index</i> |
|---|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------------------------|
|   | 2010   | 2015          | 2015                                  | 2010   | 2015         | 2014                           |
| Tajikistan                                      | 5 642  | 7 779         | 4.20                                  | 2 123  | 2 616        | 0.624                          |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia       | 9 407  | 10 587        | 3.67                                  | 11 394   | 12 725       | 0.747                          |
| Turkmenistan                                    | 22 583   | 37 254        | 6.50                                  | 10 032   | 15 527       | 0.688                          |
| Uganda  | 20 182   | 26 277        | 5.04                                  | 1 554  | 1 718        | 0.483                          |
| Uzbekistan                                      | 39 333   | 58 114        | 8.00                                  | 4 185  | 5 643        | 0.675                          |
| Zambia  | 20 266   | 26 347        | 1.65                                  | 3 277  | 3 658        | 0.586                          |
| Zimbabwe  | 9 422  | 12 785        | 1.07                                  | 1 389  | 1 688        | 0.509                          |
| <b>Landlocked developing countries, average</b> | <b>17 253</b>  | <b>22 850</b> | <b>3.67</b>                           | <b>4 024</b>   | <b>4 770</b> | <b>0.565</b>                   |

Source: United Nations Development Programme, World Bank.  
Abbreviations: GDP, gross domestic product; PPP, purchasing power parity.

Table 2  
Selected infrastructure indicators

|                                  | <i>Railways (km)</i> | <i>Mobile cellular subscriptions (per 100 people)</i> |       | <i>Internet users (per 100 people)</i> |      | <i>Access to electricity (percentage of population)</i> |       |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|-------|--|------|---|-------|
|                                  | 2014                 | 2013  | 2014  | 2013                                   | 2014 | 2010  | 2012  |
| Afghanistan                      | ..                   | 70.7  | 74.9  | 5.9                                    | 6.4  | 41.0  | 43.0  |
| Armenia                          | 826                  | 112.4   | 115.9 | 41.9                                   | 46.3 | 99.8  | 100.0 |
| Azerbaijan                       | 2 068                | 107.6   | 110.9 | 58.7                                   | 61.0 | 100.0   | 100.0 |
| Bhutan                           | ..                   | 72.2  | 82.1  | 29.9                                   | 34.4 | 72.0  | 75.6  |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 3 652                | 97.7  | 96.3  | 36.9                                   | 39.0 | 80.2  | 90.5  |
| Botswana                         | 888                  | 160.6   | 167.3 | 15.0                                   | 18.5 | 43.1  | 53.2  |
| Burkina Faso                     | 622                  | 66.4  | 71.7  | 9.1                                    | 9.4  | 13.1  | 13.1  |
| Burundi                          | ..                   | 25.0  | 30.5  | 1.3                                    | 1.4  | 5.3   | 6.5   |
| Central African Republic         | ..                   | 29.5  | 24.5  | 3.5                                    | 4.0  | 9.5   | 10.8  |
| Chad                             | ..                   | 35.6  | 39.8  | 2.3                                    | 2.5  | 3.5   | 6.4   |
| Ethiopia                         | ..                   | 27.3  | 31.6  | 1.9                                    | 2.9  | 23.0  | 26.6  |
| Kazakhstan                       | 14 329               | 184.7   | 172.2 | 54.0                                   | 54.9 | 100.0   | 100.0 |

|   | <i>Railways (km)</i> | <i>Mobile cellular subscriptions (per 100 people)</i> |             | <i>Internet users (per 100 people)</i> |             | <i>Access to electricity (percentage of population)</i> |             |
|---|----------------------|---|-------------|--|-------------|---|-------------|
|   | 2014                 | 2013  | 2014        | 2013                                   | 2014        | 2010  | 2012        |
| Kyrgyzstan                                | 417                  | 121.4   | 134.5       | 23.0                                   | 28.3        | 100.0   | 100.0       |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic          | ..                   | 68.1  | 67.0        | 12.5                                   | 14.3        | 66.0  | 70.0        |
| Lesotho                                   | ..                   | 86.3  | 85.0        | 5.0                                    | 11.0        | 17.0  | 20.6        |
| Malawi                                    | 797                  | 32.3  | 33.5        | 5.1                                    | 5.8         | 8.7   | 9.8         |
| Mali                                      | 593                  | 129.1   | 149.0       | 3.5                                    | 7.0         | 16.6  | 25.6        |
| Mongolia                                  | 1 818                | 101.4   | 105.0       | 20.0                                   | 27.0        | 86.2  | 89.8        |
| Nepal                                     | 59                   | 76.8  | 81.9        | 13.3                                   | 15.4        | 76.3  | 76.3        |
| Niger                                     | ..                   | 39.3  | 44.4        | 1.7                                    | 2.0         | 9.3   | 14.4        |
| Paraguay                                  | 36                   | 103.7   | 105.6       | 36.9                                   | 43.0        | 97.4  | 98.2        |
| Republic of Moldova                       | 1 157                | 106.0   | 108.0       | 45.0                                   | 46.6        | 98.6  | 100.0       |
| Rwanda                                    | ..                   | 56.8  | 64.0        | 9.0                                    | 10.6        | 10.8  | 18.0        |
| South Sudan                               | ..                   | 25.3  | 24.5        | 14.1                                   | 15.9        | 1.5   | 5.1         |
| Swaziland                                 | 300                  | 71.5  | 72.3        | 24.7                                   | 27.1        | 35.2  | 42.0        |
| Tajikistan                                | 621                  | 91.8  | 95.1        | 16.0                                   | 17.5        | 100.0   | 100.0       |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 699                  | 106.2   | 105.5       | 65.2                                   | 68.1        | 99.0  | 100.0       |
| Turkmenistan                              | 4 980                | 116.9   | 135.8       | 9.6                                    | 12.2        | 100.0   | 100.0       |
| Uganda                                    | 320                  | 48.1  | 52.4        | 16.2                                   | 17.7        | 14.6  | 18.2        |
| Uzbekistan                                | 4 192                | 74.3  | 78.4        | 38.2                                   | 43.6        | 100.0   | 100.0       |
| Zambia                                    | 1 248                | 71.5  | 67.3        | 15.4                                   | 17.3        | 18.5  | 22.1        |
| Zimbabwe                                  | 3 077                | 96.3  | 80.8        | 18.5                                   | 19.9        | 36.9  | 40.5        |
| <b>Landlocked developing countries</b>    | <b>42 699</b>        | <b>82.2</b>   | <b>84.9</b> | <b>20.4</b>                            | <b>22.8</b> | <b>42.2</b>   | <b>55.5</b> |

Source: World Bank, International Telecommunication Union.

Table 3  
**International trade, merchandise exports and imports**

|  | <i>Total exports (millions of<br/>United States dollars)</i> | <i>Total imports (millions of<br/>United States dollars)</i> | <i>Trade (percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Share of exports in global<br/>exports (percentage)</i> | <i>Concentration index</i> |
|--|--|--|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <i>Landlocked developing countries</i>       | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2015</i>                      | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2014</i>                |
| Afghanistan                                  | 470  | 5 571  | 53.2                             | 0.003  | 0.31                       |
| Armenia                                      | 1 487  | 3 254  | 71.0                             | 0.009  | 0.22                       |
| Azerbaijan                                   | 14 500   | 9 400  | 72.6                             | 0.088  | 0.86                       |
| Bhutan                                       | 585  | 1 170  | 116.0                            | 0.004  | 0.36                       |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of)             | 8 261  | 9 602  | ..                               | 0.050  | 0.47                       |
| Botswana                                     | 6 141  | 6 348  | 99.2                             | 0.037  | 0.82                       |
| Burkina Faso                                 | 2 132  | 2 647  | 68.7                             | 0.013  | 0.47                       |
| Burundi                                      | 111  | 755  | 40.0                             | 0.001  | 0.36                       |
| Central African Republic                     | 90   | 348  | 39.5                             | 0.001  | 0.36                       |
| Chad   | 2 900  | 2 200  | 67.2                             | 0.018  | 0.91                       |
| Ethiopia                                     | 3 825  | 19 063   | 37.2                             | 0.023  | 0.31                       |
| Kazakhstan                                   | 45 726   | 30 186   | 53.3                             | 0.277  | 0.67                       |
| Kyrgyzstan                                   | 1 676  | 4 070  | ..                               | 0.010  | 0.17                       |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic             | 2 340  | 3 860  | 79.0                             | 0.014  | 0.28                       |
| Lesotho                                      | 775  | 1 954  | ..                               | 0.005  | 0.39                       |
| Malawi                                       | 1 375  | 2 932  | 61.9                             | 0.008  | 0.48                       |
| Mali   | 2 532  | 3 167  | 50.7                             | 0.015  | 0.52                       |
| Mongolia                                     | 4 670  | 3 797  | 87.0                             | 0.028  | 0.48                       |
| Nepal  | 720  | 6 380  | 53.2                             | 0.004  | 0.15                       |
| Niger  | 1 050  | 1 990  | 56.6                             | 0.006  | 0.43                       |
| Paraguay                                     | 8 361  | 10 291   | 82.1                             | 0.051  | 0.33                       |
| Republic of Moldova                          | 1 967  | 3 987  | 117.2                            | 0.012  | 0.15                       |
| Rwanda                                       | 659  | 2 570  | 45.3                             | 0.004  | 0.44                       |
| South Sudan                                  | ..   | ..   | 67.4                             | ..   | ..                         |
| Swaziland                                    | 1 697  | 1 432  | ..                               | 0.010  | 0.27                       |
| Tajikistan                                   | 900  | 3 400  | ..                               | 0.005  | 0.41                       |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of<br>Macedonia | 4 490  | 6 400  | 113.3                            | 0.027  | 0.19                       |



|  | <i>Total exports (millions of<br/>United States dollars)</i> | <i>Total imports (millions of<br/>United States dollars)</i> | <i>Trade (percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Share of exports in global<br/>exports (percentage)</i> | <i>Concentration index</i> |
|--|--|--|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <i>Landlocked developing countries</i> | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2015</i>                      | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2014</i>                |
| Turkmenistan                           | 14 000   | 7 800  | ..                               | 0.085  | 0.76                       |
| Uganda                                 | 2 245  | 5 780  | 46.9                             | 0.014  | 0.19                       |
| Uzbekistan                             | 13 000   | 14 000   | 42.8                             | 0.079  | 0.28                       |
| Zambia                                 | 6 961  | 8 451  | ..                               | 0.042  | 0.61                       |
| Zimbabwe                               | 2 716  | 4 000  | 75.0                             | 0.016  | 0.31                       |
| <b>Landlocked developing countries</b> | <b>158 359</b>   | <b>186 805</b>   | <b>67.9</b>                      | <b>0.961</b>   | <b>0.36</b>                |

Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, World Bank.

Note: 2015 data are mostly estimated.

Abbreviation: GDP, gross domestic product.

Table 4

**Value-added share of manufacturing, agriculture and services and share of primary commodities in merchandise exports**

|  | <i>Value added share of<br/>manufacturing<br/>(percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Value added share of<br/>agriculture<br/>(percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Value added share of services<br/>(percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Exports of primary commodities, precious stones and<br/>non-monetary gold (percentage of total merchandise exports)</i> |             |
|--|---|---|--|--|-------------|
| <i>Landlocked developing countries</i> | <i>2015</i>   | <i>2015</i>   | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2000-2010</i>   | <i>2014</i> |
| Afghanistan                            | 12.8  | 22.6  | 55.0   | 66.1   | 65.8        |
| Armenia                                | 10.2  | 19.4  | 51.9   | 65.3   | 78.9        |
| Azerbaijan                             | 5.8   | 6.8   | 56.2   | 94.8   | 97.2        |
| Bhutan                                 | 8.3   | 17.1  | 40.9   | 49.0   | 37.6        |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of)       | ..  | ..  | ..   | 89.9   | 96.3        |
| Botswana                               | 6.3   | 2.4   | 64.2   | 87.9   | 94.7        |
| Burkina Faso                           | 6.2   | 32.9  | 45.2   | 91.4   | 91.8        |
| Burundi                                | 9.6   | 42.9  | 40.4   | 88.6   | 76.8        |
| Central African Republic               | 7.6   | 47.5  | 38.8   | 94.0   | 92.2        |
| Chad                                   | 2.9   | 52.4  | 33.4   | 97.6   | 98.9        |
| Ethiopia                               | 4.1   | 41.0  | 42.8   | 88.6   | 89.4        |
| Kazakhstan                             | 10.8  | 5.0   | 61.8   | 86.8   | 90.4        |
| Kyrgyzstan                             | 13.7  | 15.9  | 57.1   | 60.1   | 54.9        |
| Lao People's Democratic<br>Republic    | 9.3   | 27.2  | 41.9   | 71.1   | 84.0        |

|   | <i>Value added share of<br/>manufacturing<br/>(percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Value added share of<br/>agriculture<br/>(percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Value added share of services<br/>(percentage of GDP)</i> | <i>Exports of primary commodities, precious stones and<br/>non-monetary gold (percentage of total merchandise exports)</i> |             |
|---|---|---|--|--|-------------|
| <i>Landlocked developing countries</i>              | <i>2015</i>   | <i>2015</i>   | <i>2015</i>  | <i>2000-2010</i>   | <i>2014</i> |
| Lesotho   | ..  | ..  | ..   | 20.4   | 43.9        |
| Malawi  | 10.6  | 29.3  | 54.5   | 88.8   | 83.8        |
| Mali  | ..  | 41.0  | 39.8   | 91.2   | 87.8        |
| Mongolia  | 9.1   | 14.8  | 51.1   | 87.5   | 97.7        |
| Nepal   | 6.5   | 32.8  | 51.6   | 29.3   | 27.0        |
| Niger   | 5.7   | 36.4  | 37.3   | 69.6   | 71.7        |
| Paraguay  | 11.8  | 18.5  | 52.2   | 88.5   | 91.0        |
| Republic of Moldova                                 | 14.0  | 13.8  | 68.2   | 47.7   | 46.8        |
| Rwanda  | 4.8   | 32.7  | 47.5   | 88.0   | 84.9        |
| South Sudan   | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..   | ..          |
| Swaziland   | 37.9  | 6.9   | 48.9   | 40.1   | 44.8        |
| Tajikistan  | ..  | ..  | ..   | 84.1   | 74.5        |
| The former Yugoslav Republic<br>of Macedonia        | 12.3  | 11.2  | 62.7   | 26.6   | 20.1        |
| Turkmenistan  | ..  | ..  | ..   | 88.9   | 94.4        |
| Uganda  | 8.7   | 24.7  | 54.9   | 77.6   | 66.6        |
| Uzbekistan  | 11.2  | 18.3  | 47.1   | 65.4   | 68.2        |
| Zambia  | ..  | ..  | ..   | 88.1   | 82.8        |
| Zimbabwe  | 11.9  | 12.5  | 59.0   | 73.6   | 80.7        |
| <b>Landlocked developing<br/>countries, average</b> | <b>6.9</b>  | <b>14.6</b>   | <b>43.3</b>  | <b>82.2</b>  | <b>86.7</b> |

Source: World Bank, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Abbreviation: GDP, gross domestic product.