Organizational Session of the Preparatory Committee of the Least Developed Countries (LDC5 PrepCom)

Monday 8 February

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United Nat & BDC 1

would involve action in five key areas. These can inform reflections on the LDC programme of action for the next decade to be adopted at the LDC5:

- i) . The pandemic has increased poverty and exacerbated existing inequalities affecting the vulnerable populations including women and youth, the most. A focus on Leaving no one behind (LNOB) requires addressing vulnerabilities and exclusions, tackling systemic structural inequalities heads on.
- ii) The COVID-19 pandemic stroke against the backdrop of the dimate crisis. We have an opportunity to pivot support efforts for COVID-19 recovery to invest in nature-based solutions and build resilience to intersecting vulnerabilities, future proofing development.
- iii) The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the deployment and uptake of digital solutions to transform our economies and societies through access to quality education, telemedicine, inclusive government, social protection and more. We must ensure it becomes a force for the good and not a source of more entrenched inequalities.
- iv) There is an urgent need to support effective, transparent, and accountable governance mechanisms at all levels, with governments and other actors working together to strengthen social cohesion, gender equality, upholding human rights and the rule of law, especially in fragile and crisis affected countries.
- v) Financing recovery from COVID-19 and the SDGs will require mobilizing resources from different sources public and private, domestic and international and use available resources in an effective manner. The integrated national financing frameworks supported by UNDP and partners provides such a vehicle, acting in solidarity.

Thank you.
