

## ANNUAL MINISTERIAL MEETING OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs)

**Statement by Brazil** 

17 September 2020

Mr. Chairman,

I will deliver this statement on behalf of our Minister of Foreign Relations, Ernesto Araújo, who would have been delighted to join us today, but had to attend another commitment.

As a member of the Group of Friends of LDCs, Brazil recognizes the special needs and challenges of least developed countries, which have been reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the Istanbul Programme of Action.

Given the current global context, it is quite worrisome that we have only a few months left to implement the Istanbul Programme of Action for this decade.

The severe socioeconomic impacts related to the Covid-19 pandemic, caused by lockdowns and restrictions on movement and trade, make it even more important for all stakeholders to strive to achieve the goals and targets set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action, in order to assist LDCs in overcoming their structural challenges.

The growing food crises around the world are one example of such se-