MYANMAR

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Statement

by

Ms. Aye Mya Mya Khaing,

Alternate Representative to the Delegation of the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar on Agenda Item 22:

Groups of Countries in Special Situations,

sub item (a): Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on

the Least Developed Countries at the Second Committee of the

72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly

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Statement by Ms. Aye Mya Mya Khaing, Alternate Representative of the Myanmar Delegation under Agenda Item 22 : Groups of Countries in Special Situations, sub item (a) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at the Second Committee of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (17 October 2017)

Monsieur le Président,

Tout d'abord, la délégation du Myanmar voudrait s'associer aux déclarations faites par l'Equateur au nom du Groupe 77 et la Chine, le Laos au nom de l'Association des nations de l'Asie du Sud-Est (ASEAN) et le Bangladesh au nom du Groupe des Pays les moins avancés (PMA).

Au nom de ma délégation, je voudrais exprimer mes remerciements à M. le Secrétaire Générale pour les rapports mis a notre disposition au titre du point 22(a) de l'ordre du jour.

Le rapport de situation sur la mise en œuvre du Programme d'action en faveur des PMA pour la décennie 2011-2020 clairement apparaître que la transformation structurelle des PMA a été plus lente que celle des autres pays en développement. La pauvreté reste très présente dans les PMA en raison de plusieurs facteurs, notamment la diminuation des échanges commerciaux et des investissements et les capacités institutionnelles limitées. Elle est exacerbée par les cries économiques et politiques, les catastrophes naturelles et l'épidémie et la disparation de la diversité biologique.

Monsieur le Président,

Les objectifs de développement durable ne peuvent être atteints sans les pays les moins advancés. Le partenariat mondial est très important pour la réalisation des objectifs primordiaux du Programme d'action d'Istanbul et les objectifs de développement durable. A cet égard, je voudrais souligner certains points que ma délégation considère particulièrement importants pour réaliser pleinement ces objectifs et pour ne laisser personne pour compte.

Mr. Chair,

Official development assistance continues to be the largest and a critical source of external financing for the development of the LDCs. However, we are disheartened that the ODA assistance declined considerably in 2016. While extending appreciation to those development partners that have met their ODA commitments, my delegation encourages others to reach the ODA target of providing 0.15-0.20 percent of their GNI to LDCs.

We are also concerned by economic repercussions following global declines in commodity prices and the slowdown in world trade which make LDCs far from achieving the IPOA targets

and SDGs. In this regard, my delegation joins others in calling upon our development and trading partners to implement enhanced support measures in due course.

As foreign direct investment is an integral part of an open and effective international economic system and a major catalyst to development, my delegation wishes to underscore the importance of implementing investment promotion regimes for the LDCs as enshrined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

While technology and innovation are the key enablers for sustainable development, LDCs are lagging behind in both aspects. In this context, my delegation welcomes the establishment and operationalization of the Technology Bank for the LDCs. Sufficient donations by development partners will be required for the Bank in the long run.

Mr. Chair,

As IPoA targets and SDGs are interlinked, the successful implementation of IPoAs will keep LDCs on the right track towards achieving SDGs and vice versa. In light of this, Myanmar has integrated the IPoAs and SDGs into its National Comprehensive Development Plan (NCDP). Likewise, Myanmar's 2016 national economic and development policy is designed to meet most of the IPoA targets and SDGs. With a view to promoting people-centered development, the government is investing more in education, healthcare and other infrastructure development. Social protection programmes are on the rise giving priorities to the youth, women and girls.

Mr. Chair,

LDCs are acutely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change despite having done the least to cause the problem. However, it is regrettable that many LDCs including Myanmar have difficulties in accessing and absorbing climate finance due to their limited institutional capacity. More needs to be done to ensure that climate finance is better accessible by LDCs.

Mr. Chair,

IPoA targets are not on track after half of the implementation period has been lapsed.

We have witnessed substantial progress in some LDCs that have met the criteria for graduation. However, poverty is still widespread in many LDCs with uneven progress in the implementation of SDGs.

Therefore, my delegation firmly believes that tailored support to meet the specific needs of each LDC will be needed more than ever in the implementation of the IPoAs and SDGs, while ensuring respect for national ownership and leadership on all fronts.

I thank you.

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