**Asia-Pacific Regional Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action
in Preparation for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (UNLDC-5)**



**Session 7:** **ROAD TO DOHA: AN AMBITIOUS AGENDA FOR THE NEXT DECADE THROUGH REINVIGORATED AND INNOVATIVE FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES**



**Statement delivered by**

**Diego Valadares Vasconcelos Neto**

**Human Rights Officer,**

**Right to Development Section**

**OHCHR Focal point for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS**

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Madam Chair,

Distingued panellists

Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, I would like to congratulate the participatory process in the discussions towards the Conference in Doha and in the elaboration of the new programme of Action for LDCs**. Active, Free, and Meaningful participation** is crucial to ensure legitimacy, ownership and engagement in the implementation of the new programme of action. The innovations mentioned by Director Heidi Schroderus-Fox, ensuring participation of LDC delegations and also of the peoples and cultures from LDCs during the conference are very welcome.

An ambitious plan of action should include an accountability and monitoring framework relies on rights-based indicators, drawing upon key indicators for monitoring the human rights implications of COVID-19 ([link](https://www.un.org/development/desa/ageing/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/2020/08/HRBA-LNOB-Checklist-for-SE-Responses-COVID-19.pdf)).

Particularly relevant for this session, the accountability framework of the Doha Programme of Action should monitor an ambitious development finance package for LDCs. This includes strong commitments on ODA, debt alleviation, curbing illicit financial flows and lifting unilateral coercive measures that have negative impact to the enjoyment of human rights in LDCs.

Therefore, I would like to hear from panellists: What specific recommendations would they make to an accountability and monitoring mechanism in the Doha Programme of Action, in particular in what regards monitoring deliverables from development partners in a development finance package for LDCs?