



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Turkey



UNITED NATIONS

ACHIEVING THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS THROUGH NEW DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP: *BUILDING UP SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND COUNTRY OWNERSHIP*

**Report based on the High-Level Workshop
on Status and Trends for Asian, Caribbean
and Pacific Least Developed Countries\$**

Post-UNCTAD XII

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NOTE

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CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	v
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	vii
<i>Abbreviations</i>	viii

Chapter 1

LDCs – Current Situation and Status	1
--	----------

Chapter 2

The Outcome: Chair’s Summary	7
---	----------

Chapter 3

Opening Statements: Government of Turkey	13
---	-----------

3.1. Statement by H.E. Mr. Said Yazıcıoğlu, Minister of State, Turkey — “Current economic situation and implications for LDCs”	14
3.2. Statement by H.E. Mr. Celaleddin Kart, Director-General for Economic Relations, MFA, Turkey.....	17

Chapter 4

Keynote: The Current Global Economic Situation and Implications for LCDs Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD	21
--	-----------

Chapter 5

Discussions and Perspectives	29
---	-----------

5.1. Session 1: Current Economic Situation and Implications for LDCs.....	30
5.1.1. Afghanistan’s perspective	33
5.1.2. Nepal’s perspective.....	36

5.2. Session 2: Status and trends for Asian, Caribbean and Pacific LDCs — Financing and Managing Development.....	47
5.2.1. Implementation of the Doha Conference on Financing for Development — H.E. Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh and Chair of the LDC Group in the United Nations System	47
5.2.2. Progress under the Brussels Programme of Action: “Financing and managing development in LDCs: which way now?” Charles Gore, Special Coordinator for Cross-Sectoral Issues, UNCTAD.....	49
5.2.3. A Turkish perspective on the impact of the crisis on LDCs — Mr. Fatih Unhlu, State Planning Organization of Turkey.....	55
5.3. Session 3: Emerging Relations of LDCs with New Development Partners: What Difference Can It Make in the Areas of Trade, Investment, Technology?.....	58
5.3.1. Introductory Remarks — H.E. Mr. Bozkurt ARAN, Permanent Representative of Turkey to WTO.....	58
5.3.2. Maldives’ Perspective — H.E. Mr. Abdul Ghafoor MOHAMED, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations	61
5.3.3. Turkey’s Perspective — Mr. Halit Akçağlayan, Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade, Turkey	64

Chapter 6

Short Analytical Presentations.....67

6.1. Ms. Annet BLANK, Counsellor, Development Division, WTO.....	68
6.2. Mr. Ricardo MELENDEZ-ORTIZ, Chief Executive, ICTSD	72
6.3. Ms. Hatice Kökten, Undersecretariat of Treasury, Turkey	79

Annex I: Agenda of the Workshop 88

Annex II: List of Participants 91

PREFACE

Despite the unprecedented growth acceleration from 2005 to 2007, which even surpassed the 7 per cent target needed to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), least developed countries' (LDCs') dependence on exports of few commodities and on external financing (official development assistance (ODA), remittances and foreign direct investment (FDI)) left them vulnerable and fragile, particularly as they face the succession of international crisis: financial, global economic down turn and climate change. At such a critical period, this provided a forum for exchange of views on the understanding of impacts and implications of these crises for the LDCs. Such understandings are expected to pave the way for renewed efforts by both the LDCs and their development partners.

The challenges that LDCs face and the goals they pursue hold a particular place in the agenda of Turkey's foreign policy and UNCTAD's development agenda. In line with this and Turkey's growing interest in global issues and ongoing support to LDCs, Turkey hosted this third high-level workshop (Ankara, 4–5 December 2008), in a series of such workshops designed to support LDCs, including the Istanbul Conference (Making Globalization work for the LDCs, 9–11 July 2007) and Izmir High-level Workshop (pre-UNCTAD XII, African LDCs, 4–5 March 2008). This is an initiative by Turkey, as an emerging development partner for LDCs committed to support the development efforts of LDCs, to contribute towards the required renewed efforts by both the LDCs and their development partners to address LDCs' development challenges.

The workshop addressed the theme “*Achieving the MDGs through new development partnership: building up sustainable growth and country ownership*”. It examined “Current economic situation and implications for LDCs”, “Financing and managing development” and “Emerging Relations of LDCs with new development partners — what difference can it make in the areas of trade, investment, technology?” The workshop particularly focused on status and trends for Asian, Caribbean and Pacific LDCs with respect to these issues.

Furthermore, it provided a forum for focused attention to the challenges faced by the Asian, Caribbean and Pacific LDCs and a re-emphasis regarding the importance, more than ever, of the need for the international community to deliver on its promises — particularly given the severe resource shortfall implications for the LDCs due to the emergence of a crisis beyond their doing or control.

These discussions were complemented with reflections and debates on the role of emerging development partners and what countries such as Turkey could offer. There was also a visit to the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA), where the philosophy, practical content and strategic perspectives of Turkish cooperation were presented and discussed.

The workshop was attended by the Permanent Representatives of Asian, Caribbean and Pacific LDCs, with the participation of relevant international agencies. The meeting was concluded in a Chair's summary.

This publication brings together the highlights, some short background analytical papers and the outcome of the workshop — the Chair's Summary — as to disseminate them widely with the

dual aim of stakeholder's sensitization and development partner's mobilization. This is expected to contribute towards the efforts in the build-up towards the next United Nations LDC conference in identifying national policy measures and new international measures in support of LDCs' sustainable development and the achievement of the MDGs.

Development strategies and policies that focus on addressing the chronic structural weaknesses in the LDCs needs to find their place on top of the agendas of LDC governments and development partners, and drive the preparation process for the next United Nations LDC conference, to be held in 2011.

UNCTAD has continued to play a crucial role in **emphasizing the development dimension** of issues in the fields of international trade and investment and related areas. In particular, UNCTAD has been addressing the imbalances of globalization and the need to overcome the supply constraints of LDCs, so as **to ensure development gains and poverty reduction**. In this context, UNCTAD and the Government of Turkey will continue to work together to sensitize the international community towards the urgency for support to the LDCs in ensuring not only that there be no reversal, but positive acceleration in the pace of growth and development achieved by the LDCs in the recent years.



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The vision, leadership and support, without which the workshop and this publication would not have been possible, were provided by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, and H.E. Bozkurt Aran, Ambassador to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva of the Government of Turkey.

The workshop, under the able chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Kenan Tepedelen, Ambassador, Coordinator for LDCs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey, concluded with a Chair's summary which has been circulated to the United Nations group coordinators.

The Chair of the LDC Coordination Council, H.E. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Office at Geneva, provided valuable policy guidance and analytical insight.

This publication was prepared by Mrs. Masoumeh Sahami, with guidance from Mr. Charles Gore, UNCTAD, and Ms. Zehra Çagnur Ünlü, First Secretary, Turkish Permanent Mission to WTO.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
ALDC	Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DDA	Doha Development Agenda
DFQF	duty-free, quota-free
EBA	Everything But Arms
EIF	Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries
FDI	foreign direct investment
GDP	gross domestic product
GNI	gross national income
GNP	gross national product
ICTSD	International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development
IF	Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LDCs	least developed countries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MFA	Multifibre Arrangement
NGO	non-governmental organization
ODA	official development assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

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