

7 March 2013

**ESCAP/OHRLLS/ECE/Government of Lao PDR Final Regional Review of the
Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked
Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport
Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries**

Jointly organized by

**United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
Office of High Representative for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS (OHRLLS) and
Government of Lao Peoples Democratic Republic**

Vientiane, Lao PDR
5-7 March 2013

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME (WORKING DRAFT)

4 March 2013 **Registration starts at the Lao Plaza Hotel from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
(ESCAP Registration Desk in the Lobby)**

5 March 2013

Time

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| 08:00 – 09:00 hrs | Registration at the Lao Plaza Hotel |
| 09:00 – 10:15 hrs | Opening Session (Chaired by H.E. Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Minister of Public Works and Transport, Government of the Lao PDR) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Welcome remarks by H.E. Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chair of the Group of LLDCs▪ Opening Statement by Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP▪ Statement by Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)▪ Statement by H.E. Mr. Ha Kim Ngoc, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Vietnam▪ Statement by H.E. Ambassador Saleumxay Kommasith, Permanent Representative of Lao PDR to the United Nations in New York and Chairperson, LLDC Coordination Bureau |
| 10:15 – 10:45 hrs | <i>Group photo
Coffee Break</i> |
| 10:45 – 10:50 hrs | Election of the Bureau (to be conducted by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP from the participating LLDCs) |

10:50 – 12:30 hrs **Plenary Session**

Ministerial/High-Level Exchange on Promoting Connectivity as part of the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action for the LLDCs

Chairperson: H.E. Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Minister of Public Works and Transport of the Government of Lao PDR

Ministerial/High-level Discussants:

- H.E. Mr. Alounkeo Kittikhoun, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR
- Mr. David Jalagania, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Georgia
- Mr. Askar Tazhiev, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Mr. Deependra Bahadur Kshetry, Vice Chairperson, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal
- H.E. Mr. Tuvdendorj Janabazar, Ambassador of Mongolia to Lao PDR
- Mr. Hisanobu Mochizuki, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to ESCAP, Embassy of Japan

Presentation of the Overview Report on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action by:

- Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, UN-OHRLLS
- Mr. Nagesh Kumar, Chief Economist and Director, SRO for South and South-West Asia, ESCAP
- Ms. Eva Molnar, Director, Transport Division, ECE

The main objective of this session is to assess the final implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action for the LLDCs (APoA). This session would assess the progress made by the LLDCs in implementing the APoA, especially in the four priority areas, namely Fundamental transit policy issues; Infrastructure development and maintenance; International trade and trade facilitation and International support measures. The session will also discuss the persistent, new and emerging issues facing the Euro-Asian LLDCs such as addressing vulnerabilities to external shocks including rising and volatile food and fuel prices and economic and financial downturns, coping with climate change consequences and reducing poverty and economic and social disparities. The session will then make recommendations on way forward for Euro-Asian LLDCs in addressing these challenges for sustainable and inclusive development.

Open discussion
Summary by the Chairperson

12:30 – 13:30 hrs *Lunch at Lao Plaza Hotel*

13:30 – 15:30 hrs Technical Sessions

Technical Session 1

Promoting fundamental transit transport, and infrastructure development and maintenance in the LLDCs (Priorities 1 and 2 of APoA)

The persistence of low per capita incomes in landlocked developing countries results in a vicious circle where large investments in transport remain economically unviable owing to the low demand for transport services. Similarly, inadequate infrastructure facilities constrain economic activities, leading to poor development outcomes including slow poverty reduction, inequalities and disparities. This session will assess the progress made on Priorities 1 and 2 of the APoA which sets out the enabling environment that LLDCs need to create and actions required in establishing efficient and sustainable transit transport systems through partnerships. While some progress has been made in this regard, there remains various fundamental transit policy issues that need to be further addressed to promote sustainable transport and connectivity including: harmonization of legal regimes relating to transport and transit, adoption of an integrated approach to transport facilitation, as in the role of dry ports and role of seaports in transit countries, elimination of physical and non-physical barriers to transit transport, and promotion of integrated training programmes encompassing all levels, from top management to low-level operators, in both the public and private sectors. This session will also explore the role of sub-regional cooperation in promoting transit transport infrastructure.

Moderator: Mr. Deependra Bahadur Kshetry, Vice Chairperson, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal

Presentation of the Discussion Paper by:

Ms. Eva Molnar, Director, Transport Division, ECE

Mr. Li Yuwei, Chief, Transport Facilitation and Logistics Section, Transport Division, ESCAP

Special presentation by:

Mr. Igor Rounov, Under Secretary General and Head of IRU Permanent Delegation to Eurasia, "The 2nd decade of Almaty Programme of Action - from landlocked to land-linked countries, economies and cultures"

Discussants:

- Mr. Mohammad Asif-u-Zaman, Joint Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Government of Bangladesh
- Mr. Chong Chi Nai, Country Director, ADB, Lao PDR

Statements by participating countries and development partners

Open discussion

Summary by the Moderator

15:30 – 15:45 hrs *Coffee Break*

15:45 – 17:30 hrs **Technical Session 2**

Enhancing the share of LLDCs in global trade flows and trade facilitation (Priority 3 of APoA)

This session will assess some of the important trends in the shares of trade flows accounted for by the LLDCs in recent years and, in light of that experience and also given the global economic crisis of the recent past, consider new priorities for action, including options for rebalancing growth strategies so that growth becomes inclusive and sustainable. Discussions will also focus on some of the commitments and support measures contained in major global initiatives such as Doha Development Round, FfD, G20 Summit Outcome, G8 commitments and assess how far the LLDCs have benefited or stand to benefit from these initiatives. It will highlight the need to use Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework for promoting sustainable and inclusive growth in LLDCs. The session will also emphasize the need for productive capacity development and technology transfer for trade diversification and trade promotion in order to meet the goals of sustainable development.

Moderator: H.E. Mr. C. Gururaj Rao, Ambassador of India, Vientiane

Presentation of the Discussion papers by:

Ms. Mia Mikic, Chief, Trade Policy and Analysis Section, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP

Mr. Erdenetsogt Odbayar, Interim Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Mongolia, LLDCs International Think Tank

Discussants:

- Mr. Richard Record, Trade Specialist, Southeast Asia PREM Sector Unit, World Bank Office Vientiane, Lao PDR
- Mr. Shintaro Hamanaka, Economist, Office of Regional Economic Integration, Asian Development Bank
- Mr. Boonyarit Kalayanamit, Inspector General, Ministry of Commerce of Thailand, Royal Government of Thailand

Statements by participating countries and development partners

Open discussion

Summary by the Moderator

19:00 – 22:30 hrs **Cultural event, followed by Welcome Dinner by ESCAP and the Government of Lao PDR at the Don Chan Palace Hotel**

6 March 2013

09:00 – 10:45 hrs **Technical Session 3**

Enhancing international support measures for inclusive and sustainable development of the LLDCs (Priority 4 of APoA)

The LLDCs are still highly aid dependent both with respect to the share of

official development assistance (ODA) in government expenditure and in terms of access to foreign exchange. This session will assess international support measures, including ODA, Aid for Trade flows, foreign direct investment, non-concessional development financing or other official flows and other sources that have helped them to promote economic growth, fund their infrastructure requirements and increase their trade potential. The session will also focus on resource mobilization to enhance intra- and inter country connectivity as well as connectivity of people and explore options for promoting regional integration centered around South-south cooperation and triangular cooperation. The session will make suggestions and recommendations regarding special and differentiated international support measures for low-income and fragile LLDCs so that these countries can pursue sustainable development strategies.

Moderator: Dr. Pichet Wangtepanukhor, Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

Coordinated by ESCAP Sub-regional Offices

Presentation of the Discussion papers by: Mr. Nagesh Kumar, Chief Economist and Director, SRO for South and South-West Asia, ESCAP, Mr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Director, SRO-Incheon and Mr. Nikolay Pomoshchnikov, Chief, SRO-Almaty

Discussants

- H.E. Mr. Somchit Inthamith, Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment, Lao PDR
- Mr. Hisanobu Mochizuki, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to ESCAP, Embassy of Japan, Bangkok
- Mr. Taffere Tesfachew, Director of the Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD
- Mr. Shintaro Shamanaka, Economist, Office of Regional Economic Integration, Asian Development Bank

Statements by participating countries and development partners

Open discussion

Summary by the Moderator

10:45 – 11:00 hrs *Coffee Break*

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_5758

