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Agenda item 23

Groups of countries in special situations

Report of the Second Committee*

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Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2021, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-sixth session the item entitled:

“Groups of countries in special situations:

“(a) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

“(b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries.”

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. At its 1st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Committee, taking into account the situation regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the limitations on meetings held on United Nations premises as precautionary measures aimed at containing the spread of COVID-19, as well as available technological and procedural solutions, and bearing in mind the conference room paper of the Bureau of the Second Committee on the work of the Committee during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly,¹ approved the working arrangements of the Committee for the seventy-sixth session as set out in the organization of work of the Committee.²

3. The Committee convened virtual informal meetings on 7 and 13 October 2021 to hear introductory statements and hold general discussions on the item and its sub-items, jointly with agenda item 27, “Towards global partnerships”. The proceedings of the virtual informal meetings are reflected in the annex to the present

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols [A/76/535](#), [A/76/535/Add.1](#) and [A/76/535/Add.2](#).

¹ Available at www.un.org/en/ga/second/76/crp1bureaupaper.pdf.

² See [A/C.2/76/L.1](#).



document. Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 5, 6 and 8 October 2021.³ Action on the item and its sub-items was taken at the 8th and 9th meetings, on 22 and 23 November 2021.⁴ An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 23 (a)

Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 ([A/76/71-E/2021/13](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation, effectiveness and added value of smooth transition measures and graduation support ([A/76/271](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the first three years of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries ([A/76/272](#) and [A/76/272/Corr.1](#))

Item 23 (b)

Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 ([A/76/267](#))

³ See [A/C.2/76/SR.2](#), [A/C.2/76/SR.3](#), [A/C.2/76/SR.4](#) and [A/C.2/76/SR.5](#).

⁴ See [A/C.2/76/SR.8](#) and [A/C.2/76/SR.9](#).

Annex

General discussion

1. In accordance with its agreed organization of work ([A/C.2/76/L.1](#)), the Second Committee held a general discussion on the item and its sub-items, jointly with item 27, “Towards global partnerships”, in informal virtual meetings on 7 and 13 October 2021.
2. At the informal virtual meeting on 7 October, introductory statements were made by the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (under items 23 (a) and (b)) and the Managing Director for the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries (under item 23 (a)).
3. At the same informal virtual meeting, the Committee heard statements by the representatives of Guinea (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Kazakhstan (on behalf of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries), Morocco (on behalf of the Group of African States), Malawi (on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries) Lao People’s Democratic Republic (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Qatar, Ethiopia, China, Ecuador, Bhutan, Tajikistan, Nepal, South Africa, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone, Maldives and Eritrea.
4. At the informal virtual meeting on 13 October, the Committee heard statements by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Lesotho and Paraguay and the observer for the Holy See.
5. Statements delivered under the item that were provided to the Secretariat are available in the eStatements section of the *Journal of the United Nations*.¹

¹ See <https://journal.un.org/en/meeting/officials/693cd100-a51a-ec11-8311-0abf1fa886b5/2021-10-07> and <https://journal.un.org/en/meeting/officials/b93cd100-a51a-ec11-8311-0abf1fa886b5/2021-10-13>.