

Monitoring of Graduating Countries from the Category of Least Developed Countries

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution E/2012/32 requests the CDP to monitor recent socio-economic development progress of countries earmarked for graduation from the LDC category and to include its findings in its annual report to the ECOSOC. The main purpose of the monitoring is to assess any signs of deterioration in the development progress of the graduating country and bring it to the attention of the Council as early as possible.

Currently, Samoa is the only country earmarked for graduation. Equatorial Guinea and Vanuatu have also been recommended for graduation by the Committee in 2009 and 2012, respectively. The recommendations were endorsed by the Council, but not taken note of by the General Assembly (GA) at the time of this writing. In case that the GA takes note of the recommendations, the CDP Secretariat will prepare a short monitoring report on these countries for the consideration of the CDP at its next plenary meeting in 2014.

II. Development progress of Samoa

In 2006, the CDP recommended to ECOSOC that Samoa be graduated from the LDC category. ECOSOC endorsed the recommendation in July 2007. Subsequently, the GA adopted the resolution on the graduation of Samoa, which was scheduled to take place in December 2010.

On 29 September 2009, however, Samoa was hit by a devastating tsunami, which threatened to disrupt the socio-economic progress for several years. Consequently, the GA adopted a resolution on 7 September 2010 (A/RES/m(-)-80.4191653(n)-0.9 Cntntito

by 1.5 per cent in 2012 and growth is projected to rise to around 2.5 per cent over the medium term.

Figure 1. Samoa: annual growth rate of real GDP, 2007-2017 (per cent)



