

weak compared to the economic and environmental pillars. As developments in the Arab region and the financial crisis had recently demonstrated, social issues like youth unemployment, social inequalities and social exclusion all profoundly impact development, peace and security. ECESA membe

WFP seconded FAO and raised the importance of safety nets and social protection to address the future of the world's billion.

ESCWA stressed that the regional dimension was key to shape policies and positions relevant to sustainable development on the themes of the Conference. In spite of current events in the regio

2015 and to make recommendations on further steps to advance the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015. He added that in pursuance of the GA requests, an analytical annual report of the Secretary-General would be prepared on progress towards the MDGs until 2015. It would include policy recommendations on accelerating achievement of MDGs as well as recommendations on advancing the UN development agenda beyond 2015.

He then invited Mr Rob Vos, Director, Development Policy and Analysis Division, (DPAD) for a briefing.

Mr Vos informed participants that the report would draw on national experiences and look at what had worked and what had not. The key messages would include the need for strong national policy frameworks, including macro-economic policy frameworks, economic diversification and structural change. The report would also stress the importance of sustainable and inclusive growth while addressing the linkages between peace and security and development.

On the preparatory process, Mr Vos mentioned that a timeline had already been circulated. He hoped to send a draft of the report to ECESA Plus on 20 June 2011. The deadline for the submission of the report was 1 July 2011. He added that the MDG Gap Task Force Report would be completed soon, and was likely to complement the annual report of the Secretary-General.

Mr Jomo opened the floor for discussions on the main messages that this report should highlight and invited participants to share information on their views.

lives as much as democracy. Challenges of social inclusion needed to be addressed along with promotion of the private sector and job creation, support for the agricultural sector and food security among others. Regional action was crucial for change and the region needed UN support

VI. Briefing on LDC IV Conference

Mr Jomo invited Mr Sandagdorj Erdenebileg, Acting Director, OHRLLS, to give a briefing on OHRLLS' assessment of LDC IV and its outcome.

In his briefing, Mr Erdenebileg mentioned that the Istanbul Programme of Action had focused on eight priority areas including productive capacity, agriculture and manufacturing services among others. There was a definite qualitative shift in focus from an emphasis on export growth (as in the Brussels PoA) to enhancing the productive capacity of LDCs. The outcome had also agreed on a definition of development partnerships involving the traditional donors, UN system organizations, including the EBR, developing countries, private sector, civil society, parliamentarians and emerging economies. The Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) of ECOSOC and the ECD would also review implementation of the Istanbul PoA. The outcome document contains a number of key deliverables for LDCs for the next decade which includes, among others, concrete goals and targets for building productive capacity in LDCs; developing