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Statement by

H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile

President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

High-level Opening Session

**Istanbul to Doha - a journey towards sustainable and resilient
development: The Asia Pacific stories for**

at the

Asia-Pacific Regional Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Istanbul
Programme of Action in Preparation for the Fifth United Nations Conference on
the Least Developed Countries (LDC5)

30 August 2021, 9:00 – 10:00 am (Geneva time) **[3:00-4:00 a.m. EDT]**

Hybrid Meeting

(in person at CR Tempus 1 at UNOG, Geneva, Switzerland and virtually)

10. Furthermore, it is imperative that we ensure that the LDCs Member States that are in good prospect to graduate in the course of the next decade, or have recently graduated but in transition whilst at the same time recovering

Excellencies,

15. As I conclude, let me reaffirm that as President of ECOSOC, my team and I -- with the support our Secretariat -- stand ready to offer our full support for the agenda of LDCs especially at this very challenging times. We will be working hand in hand with you as we traverse the path towards Doha (LDC5).

16. This week's meeting is another key milestone on this road and for the LDCs to build consensus on how to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in those countries during the Decade of Action, and to ensure that no one will be left behind. It is therefore vital that the LDC5 Conference delivers concrete solutions for the challenges faced by this group of Member States, given the vulnerabilities they face.

17. Let me also take this moment to express my appreciation for the invaluable support of the Government of Qatar as the host country of LDC5.

18. Please, as ECOSOC President, consider me and my office your trusted partner in our common objectives of effective LDC5 Conference preparations and its success.

19. **I thank you for your attention, and wish you all the best for the remainder of this important meeting.**