

Excellencies,
Mr. Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC,
Distinguished Heads of UN entities,
Distinguished Colleagues,

At the outset, I would like to thank Executive Secretary Simon Stiell for the kind invitation to join this high-level event.

Indeed, adaptation is the foremost challenge facing the 3 «®ÿ - · most vulnerable nations.

National Adaptation Plans play a central role in identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs, as well as developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs for the LDCs and other developing countries.

The recently adopted Doha Programme of Action for the LDCs highlighted climate vulnerability as a major obstacle for the LDCs ; 0k ®° - °« š00¥ 2; - ± - °š¥ š> ; development.

The Doha Programme of Action called for the strengthening of resilience-building measures, including prioritizing adaptation and the preparation of national adaptation plans (NAP).

The financial situation in the LDCs and SIDS is especially challenging due to the shrinking fiscal space and worsening debt situation due to the pandemic, rising food, energy, and fertilizer prices, and increasing interest rates.

This makes concessional climate finance rather than loans especially important.

Regional approaches could offer greater efficiency and economies of scale in the process of NAP preparation and implementation of projects. The example of the Global Fund for Coral Reefs could be a model to be replicated elsewhere.¹

To support the NAP process, my Office is actively seeking to mobilize funding to support the 20 LDCs that are farthest behind in the preparation of their NAPs.

Finally, I would like to draw attention to two upcoming conferences which offer important opportunities to integrate

¹ The Global Fund for Coral Reefs is a blended finance instrument to mobilise action and resources to protect and restore coral reef ecosystems. It is receiving funding from the GCF. More information is available here <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/global-fund-coral-reefs-brings-together-grant-and-investment-windows-gcf-cop26-event>

Thus, adaptation must be integrated across the new Programme of Action