

to deliver practical solutions to the challenges faced by the LLDCs and accelerate their implementation of SDGs. It also provides a unique space and opportunity to ensure inclusion through

LLDCs development journey going forward.

The last decades have seen some important progress in women empowerment globally, as well as in LLDCs. Notably, in the national parliaments of LLDCs, the proportion of seats held by women increased from 7.8% in 2000 to 30.1% in 2023, exceeding the global average of 26.5% Conversely the widening digital divide between men and women in LLDCs in terms of access to the internet, which, rose from 7% to 9% in 2022 and 2023, respectively, reflects the need to enhance inclusion across all development sectors and to

Recognizing that women make up 49% of the 570 million people in the LLDCs and furthermore

full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic, and public life.

This event serves to highlight that including and empowering women in LLDCs is not just a matter of choice, but a strategic priority for the success of the PoA and sustainable development. It aims to realize the following: -

- Mobilize highparticipation in implementation of the next programme of action for the LLDCs.
- Share best practices; identify recommendations and actions needed to amplify voice and opportunities for women in the implementation of the new Programme of Action for LLDCs; and
- Enhance networking, partnerships, and collective action across all stakeholders for the success of the new PoA.

This meeting will be a two-hour working lunch, that will draw the participation of women