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**From the MDG Summit to the UN LDC IV
Conference: Focusing on the MDG's
Achievements in the Least Developed Countries
and how to Fill the Gap**

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GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great honor and privilege for us to have in our midst the honorable President Wade, and it is with great pleasure that I welcome his excellency, the President of Senegal. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to all of the distinguished speakers as well as the distinguished presenters and those who have come early this morning to hear, and to speak, and to talk about the LDCs. I'm greatly delighted about the response that we have received here, and we would like to make sure that the spirit which is there to look at the issues related to the LDCs when we talk about MDG, when we try to talk about our preparation going towards the fourth LDC conference is fully supported, fully discussed, and fully taken on board by all the stakeholders. You may be aware that the LDCs are the countries, which are behind many of the objectives that we have set for ourselves in terms of achieving MDGs. We all live in an ever integrated and globalized world. Therefore, the constraints and challenges of the most vulnerable among the various groups, the LDCs, have to be the concern of the international community as a whole.

Today, no country can remain in isolation, and what happens in one part of the world reverberates around. In the LDCs we have more than 800 million people and more than half of whom is to live in abject poverty and deprivation. Ensuring a decent standard of living, hope and optimism in the face of this immense adversity around them is critical not only for the livelihood as well as the dignity of the human being, but we would say that it is very important for peace and security. It is more than a moral imperative. It is in the self interest of us all.

The continuation of an ever-growing divide between the rich and the poor is a clear recipe for inherent instability, and therefore the elevation of poverty and hunger and regeneration of economic activities in the LDCs should be the priority of all. Of course, we all know that the development and the progress is the responsibility of the states themselves, but what we are also aware of is that without a

very strong global partnership this is not possible. This is how we have looked at even the progress or the challenges relating to the attainment of the MDGs. We have made substantial progress in many of the MDGs despite these challenges, and some of our progress is there in maternal health, child mortality, education and empowerment of women. But there is a long way to go to attain the MDGs because we have started from a very low base, and there is an entrance poverty. The biggest challenge of meeting them all is recently undermined even by the recent crises that has had a compound effect upon all of us. Yet, we believe that if there is a global commitment, there is global support in the spirit of global partnership, we can achieve MDGs even in the LDCs.

Let me also briefly talk about how and in what conditions all the LDCs are operating, why it has been very difficult even to achieve the MDGs. The high incidence of poverty and hunger, low human development, limited economic activities, low productivity, high unemployment, a - - economy and early stage of industrialization and over dependence on one or two products for exports have a combined effect of trapping LDCs in a vicious circle of poverty and under development. More than that, many of them are land-locked, or small islands, or even ravaged by conflict. Their smaller size and the daunting challenges they face makes their plight particularly vulnerable. What differentiates the LDCs from other groups of countries is that they have structural constraints that undermine their capacity to an extreme.

Therefore, we believe that what we need is coherent international policies not only focused on ODA only. ODA is very important, but we believe that ODA alone will not be sufficient. We need a coherent international policy with a sustained and enhanced level of international commitment and support in favor of the LDCs.

When we talk about the attainment of the MDGs, we are also thinking about preparing ourselves to go beyond MDGs looking to the forthcoming conference on the LDCs to be held in Istanbul in May/June 2011. We have to look at the issues that we face comprehensively because our challenges are comprehensive and our constraints are many. Therefore, the support measures have to be ambitious. It has to be comprehensive, and it has to be result-oriented. That is what we are looking forward to in Turkey, Istanbul, from the

conference of the UN LDC IV.

You may be aware that we have had a number of conferences on the LDCs in the past, in fact three conferences in the past, and still there are very few who have come out of the LDC status. Therefore, there is a fundamental challenge to all of us that when we have this fourth LDC conference in Turkey we should make sure that the next time around when we have another conference, there will be at least a large number of them who should be graduating from the LDC status. We don't want to remain in the LDC status for long. In fact, it is a desire and a commitment on the part of the national leadership of all the LDCs that they want to go forward toward proper, sustainable development. Therefore, our approach toward the LDC IV conference is that we are looking forward to an action-oriented, forward-looking, ambitious, as well as comprehensive outcome. How we are looking at it is that if we only look at the MDGs, that will not resolve the problem of the LDCs. As I said before, there are structural constraints that have to be dealt with. If there is not sustained and proper economic development, social and human development alone will not take us forward. Therefore, we are looking at a number of issues in which we need very clear direction, very clear political will, and very clear global partnership in Turkey.

When we talk about these issues, the number one priority, of course, for us is human and social development, which is a prerequisite, in fact, for economic development, but we have to look beyond that. That's what we're also focusing on the productive capacity, infrastructure, and agriculture. That is the second area where we can really maximize economic development processes in all our countries and how we can make our efforts sustainable. Thirdly, I just explained that even though we were making a lot of progress, whether it is in relation to the economic development or in relation to the MDG attainment, we were affected by combined and multiple crises, the food crisis, the fuel crisis, and the economic and financial crisis. The combined effect of these crises had a terrible impact on the employment of the people, on the level of poverty in the countries, and also on overall economic resilience I should say of the LDCs. Therefore, there has to be a special support mechanism in favor of the LDCs in order to make sure that our resilience is in fact enhance and there will be less shock from the international

crises.

Of course, when we talk about the crises, the adverse impact of the climate change has become also one of the major factors in terms of the negative impact on economic development in our country, whether we look in Asia, Africa, and - - countries, we have varieties of problems, but it had a combined effect on the livelihood as well as on the success of the economy of these countries. We had floods. We have natural disasters. We have the degradation of land. We have desertification, which is a major issue in many countries, and we have a sea level rise. So we look forward to a very ambitious as well as effective outcome from the climate change conference so that we can have a reliable and very strong, sustainable new financing mechanism to deal with not only mitigation but also adaptation, technology transfer and the financing for all the countries, but mostly, especially I should say, those who have the least capacity to deal with them and also those who contributed least to the climate change. I think there is a matter of this justice issue, which is also involved in it.

We would like to see that there is a special commitment for the LDCs in the mechanisms that we put in place, whether it is to deal with the climate change issues or with the other crises. So, this is one of the issues that we would like to see that there is a strong commitment coming out from the Turkey conference in Istanbul. Fourthly, I would say that whenever we talk about international support, naturally the national development efforts are critical. We are aware of that. We have to have proper national development strategies. There is absolutely no doubt about that. The development and the progress of the countries is a concern of the countries themselves. There is absolutely no doubt about that, but we live in an interdependent world, and we live in a world where everything is related to everything these days in a very highly globalized world, and that's why global partnership is critical, especially because of the challenges that I said of a very high level of poverty/unemployment and the dealing with the different crises that are not of our own making but we are on the receiving end of them all of the time. That's why we would like to see that there is coherent and comprehensive support for the LDCs. Yes, the ODA, there has been commitment, but we see the figures that even though there was a commitment of 0.15 to 0.2% of the GNI to the

LDCs, the actual figure is 0.09%. There is a long way to go to really provide international support in terms of ODA to the LDCs. Similarly, it is very important for us to see that there has to be strong and coordinated support for enhancing our trading capacity as well as access to international markets. Duty-free, quota-free access to the LDCs and reduction of the trade-related barriers will be critical if we are talking about long-term productive capacity building in the countries themselves. Similarly, what we are talking about is also the FDI. There has to be some provisions, facilitatory provisions to make sure that the FDIs also go to the countries in the LDCs. We have seen most of the time that the FDI goes to the countries where there is already a lot of FDI. So how do we make sure that the deficit of FDI investment goes to the LDCs? There have to be some facilitatory measures on the part of the developed countries to make sure that the FDIs are also attracted to these countries.

Date sustainability is one of the major challenges for all of the LDCs. If you look at the figures, there are many - - , which are now being paid. Of course, we are glad that there has been a lot of initiative to restructure the data and make it sustainable, but I think we have to go beyond that to make sure that we create an environment whereby the resources that we have in the LDCs are fully utilized for the development of the countries concerned.

Finally, I would say that technology transfer as well as the medicines, the help for medicines, will be critical to really have an impact on the LDCs. Therefore in the UNGARA [phonetic] conference what we are really looking for would be a multi-stakeholder approach and a comprehensive approach to resolve the issues related to the LDCs. We look forward to the private sector development. We look forward to the enterprise development in the LDCs also through a forum, which Turkey has promised that it will organize in Istanbul during the conference. We are looking for the involvement of parliamentarians, involvement of the civil society because they are leaders in the field as well as the partnership of all in order to make sure that we move ahead from this status confidently towards the status in which we can really say, and proudly say, that many of them I hope have come out of the LDC status in the next ten years when we will have the next conference. With these preliminary remarks I would like

to welcome you all here once again, and I must say that one of the organizers of this particular event, Mr. Patrick Guillaumont, had to leave because his father passed away. I must express our-

MALE VOICE: [interposing] Father-in-law.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Father-in-law. We must express our condolences to him. Even in his absence, we thought this is something that we would continue. Therefore, it is with these words that I would once again like to thank you, and especially the honorable presence of his excellency, the President. I would like to give you the floor, sir.

PRESIDENT ABDOULAYE WADE THROUGH INTERPRETER: Thank you, Ambassador. I would like to first say, Mr. Guillaumont has unfortunately as we said lost his father-in-law. He was a great professor of economics in Paris. He was one of the first to focus on these matters of development, Jean-Marcel - - [phonetic]. He was a minister of Industry under General Degall [phonetic]. I am replacing Mr. Guillaumont a little bit. We were friends. I am also professor of economics, and we were going to speak at the same time. Mr. Severino is also here. He is a theoretician and philosopher, and he has worked at the French—he has been the General Director of the French Development Agency. We are friends, and we have worked closely on matters of development theoretically but also on a practical level. I do not want to speak at length, but I for this reason want to merely say a number of things that I believe are essential after, of course, thanking the ambassador for the introduction.

I want to make a number of statements. The international development is departmental, the approach that is. We talk about agriculture on the one hand, and then we talk about foreign investment, and then we talk about infrastructure, etcetera. All of this is fine sometimes, but there is no global, comprehensive consistency or coherence, and there can't be if we treat things that way. If you work in one direction, you create imbalances elsewhere. I'm a co-author or author of NPAD the New Partnership for African Development. This is the core document for what we have proposed to developed countries looking of course at a partnership. In NPAD we believe that there are eight main economic sectors, and we prioritize them. There's infrastructure, education, health, agriculture, energy,

environment, ICT, and exports. There you have it. It is the theoretical model that we put forward, and this is what I have implemented in Senegal. It has borne fruit.

So there are eight points here on a keyboard if you will that we need to work with sometimes in one direction, sometimes in another. So that's the first thing. This is a difficulty, but on the national level we can do it. On the international level there are agricultural organizations. There are other ICT organizations, etcetera, and we can find lessons learned in many sectors. This does not always point at a coherent movement although on the national level we can.

So, I wanted to explain to you what I did in Senegal to have some results, and I would say two things. There we cannot obtain the MDGs if there is not an effort to innovate. It's not necessarily a matter of money. Money is good, but the countries that are going to attain the MDGs must show some imagination. They must create a certain amount of mechanisms given their cultural and political realities. That's what I wanted to say, and education. We have the only country in the world that allocates 40% of its budget to education, 40%. The African average is 23%. How is this possible people ask? Well, it is possible. We've done this because for me development is mankind, and I'm going to invest in education. I know that I'm sacrificing other sectors, but that's okay.

Soon we will have the quality human resources that will allow me to move forward. That's the first thing. Now, we'd like to bring balance between all sectors, but development is something that comes with imbalance. We can bring balance afterwards to balance this dynamic, but this is what I have focused on education, 40%, 10% to health. With increased revenue, with increased GDP, I can give more to health, but believe me all Senegalese students either in Senegal or abroad receive a scholarship. They get a scholarship, and I built schools in all villages, all villages in Senegal. This is my vision of development with the human factor at the center.

Secondly, my second statement is that we cannot have development without women. Africa has neglected women in development. We've neglected them. Whose working in Africa? It's the women. We see this, even when there is polygamy there are many women working in one family, and that's my personal sense of humor. Not everyone is an agreement with

it, but that's my first, promotion of women, empowerment of women, absolute parity in all elected or semi-elected bodies. In the next elections, we will have 50% women in the National Assembly and in the Senate. Why? Because this human resource is essential. We must use it—that's women. I can't insist more on this point or enough on this point, but everyone knows this. I would say, for example, in primary education, this must be brought in. There are more girls than boys in primary education in Senegal. In university there are less girls, but they get better marks. They do better is the situation in Senegal, and we're also seeing the armed forces in this, of 50 high level there were 30-some for women. This is important. It's important to see this in the political system as well.

So, I want to say something on child mortality and maternal mortality. This is our great weakness, but I just launched an initiative. And I was speaking of initiatives. Innovation—in our culture, in every culture there are women. Sociologists have not said why, but the reality is the way it is, but they are the home leaders. We have chosen women to take on a mission. Women will take on a role as the godmother of the neighborhood, and this will be the following mission—to oversee all of the pregnant women, give them advice, bring them to the clinic right through to delivery and keep an eye on the children as well, and the children's wellbeing. Child and women's mortality, mother's mortality, often comes from a lack of awareness and oversight of the women through the medical process.

How many women come from the bush to deliver and they're on bumpy roads on carts with their pregnancy, and we want to put an end to that. We want to help women in these situations.

The other day in Senegal we had these women, these godmothers of the neighborhoods, at a big meeting, and we gave this mission to the women and they are very enthusiastic about this. We had thought that we wouldn't be able to attain the MDGs because of the health of this group and all other areas—education there weren't problems. This one we needed to focus on, so this is innovation.

Canada was interested in this. Canada sent a mission to study this project, and they helped us. What do we need? We need a telephone for each woman, and perhaps ambulances as well to bring them to the delivery wards.

Then there is HIV/AIDS. Senegal has the weakest—0.7% is our number for HIV/AIDS, and it is the combination of what my predecessor has done and what I have done together. My predecessor was one of the first to believe in this program. He created the program. He took steps. What I've done is to involve women in this, and the youth, and the religious leaders. That's what I've contributed. So, our AIDS policy is aimed at raising awareness around AIDS and the stakes, and right now we have the lowest incidence of AIDS. When in a war you increase, you move ahead, you hold that ground.

President Bush had given millions of dollars to help fight AIDS in Africa, and I asked him why not Senegal, and he said because you've already made so much progress and we need to consolidate this. The population increases and there is mobility, and we need to focus on these problems and hold the ground that we've gained.

This is going to be my last point. I wanted to speak of sustainability in development. We have launched what we call the accelerated growth strategy, and we've been working hard in all of the sectors that I mentioned earlier. For agriculture, Senegal was the country that was most dependent on foreign assistance until 2007. We imported 650,000 tons of rice from Thailand, etcetera, but I decided to move toward food self-sufficiency. Now we produce the rice that we need. I launched a program that's well-known that's a program that really marks a great agricultural offensive to take care of nutrition and abundance. This came when in the U.N. there were alarms being sounded for threats of famine. We launched this program. I spoke with the secretary general. I said, no, we will be able to cover these needs, and this is a reflection of political will and development. Without political will we cannot do anything. Without development we cannot do much, but with political will we can. Of course, aid is welcome, but it has to be well-targeted, well-used aid.

We did attain food security, and in production where we had a deficit, peanuts for example, which is one of our main products, we produced around 450,000 tons, 300,000 some domestic production, but now we have 1,200,000. We had a monocrop with peanuts at one point, but now we have found people to buy this abroad, China for example, and we also imported equipment so that women can now create peanut oil. There is value added from these factories creating peanut

oil. So this is part of our strategy for accelerated development in each sector. The private sector is weak in our country, but I encourage them very much. Sometimes, there wasn't a big culture of business, but now the state creates companies and launches some ideas just to show that it's doable, that it's feasible. Then the private sector can move ahead, and there are many examples of this. Our policies were liberal policies, free enterprise policies with re-exportability of profit. This has allowed us to move from among the poor countries to receive a great deal of FDI.

I created a Presidential Council for Investment. This was an initiative that was specific to Senegal. Every six months I would bring together all of the business leaders, their domestic business leaders and foreign business leaders in Senegal and even some that had nothing to do with Senegal. We would bring them in to see what we were doing, and they could give their impression. We undertook analysis. We received input. We implemented, and then six months later we would sit down again and look at the results that these efforts had obtained.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is what I can share with you right now. If you want a summary, one, there is no development without innovation. Without innovation it is impossible. Money is great. Investment is fantastic, but it's not enough. Thank you very much.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: I thank his Excellence Abdoulaye Wade, President of Senegal, for his excellent remarks, and especially as an intellectual leader of Senegal, also as a co-author of NPAD, and I must add the strong advocate of African issues and the LDC issues in the international arena, and also an academic of a very high standard. I think we have heard excellent remarks, and I think they are very important for us all to think about, especially when he stressed the innovation as an important aspect of all the efforts that we make in the LDCs, that we just simply don't transfer what is there, but there has to be some innovation and the importance of education, empowerment of women, child and maternal mortality related issues, the focus that is needed, and the innovative ideas, with which we can really have a huge impact on the ground and efforts that Senegal is making on HIV/AIDS as well as in agriculture diversification as well as the expansion of agriculture through a very strong political will and the proper development policy. I must

express our sincere thanks, your Excellency, for the remarks, which are very pertinent and very particular not only to Senegal but to many other countries. I'm glad that we were able to hear your Excellency in this particular forum. I once again express our gratitude for your honorable presence and the statement.

With this, may I now invite the Under Secretary General, Sidi Diarra, Cheikh Sidi Diarra, for his statement. You have the floor, sir.

CHEIKH SIDI DIARRA THROUGH INTERPRETER: Mr. President, my first words will be to wish a warm welcome to President Abdoulaye Wade, as you did yourself, and to welcome the fact that in spite of a very busy schedule, he was able to find the time to join us today. This shows sufficiently, sir, that you're very committed to the destiny of the populations, the fates of the people of the LDCs, and we encourage you to continue this leadership.

CHEIKH SIDI DIARRA: Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, let me thank you and also Ambassador Apakan for Turkey for your strong support to the process of preparation of the Fourth United Nations Conference that will take place in Istanbul next year from May 30th to June 3rd. Let me also thank the other organizers of this event and express to Professor Guillaumont all the sympathy of my office and my own.

The Summit meeting currently taking place on the millennium development goals has made it clear that the goals will only be attained by accelerating progress in the least developed countries. There is strong ties between the millennium development goals and the Brussels Programme of Action that guide the fate of the least developed countries. The Brussels Programme of Action was developed one year following the Millennium Development Summit and drew from there much of its aspiration. As a proof of this, the focus of the MDGs on poverty, hunger, education, health and other social services, is also reflected in the Brussels Programme of Action.

Progress in addressing poverty, which by the way is the overarching objective of the Brussels Programme of Action, and progress in service delivery, is considered as a result of the increase in productive capacity employment opportunities in LDCs. In this respect, the Brussels Programme of Action goes beyond the MDG targets by

specifically focusing on investment and growth leading to structural transformation, which in turn is the best way of sustaining social gains and overall sustainable development. Assessing the progress on the MDGs at the global level, the WHO, for example, has reported that the annual death of children under five fell by about one-third to 8.8 million in 2008 from 12 million in 1990.

It also reported a decline of one-third in maternal mortality during the same period. On eradicating the extreme poverty, the global monitoring report of 2010 projects that the number of extreme poor could total around 920 million people five years from now marking a significant decline from the 1.8 billion living in extreme poverty in 1990. This shows a positive trend indicating that at the global level we are still on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals of halving extreme poverty. Many developing countries including the least developed countries have made strides to implement the Millennium Development Goals sometimes with a lot of success. President Wade has just illustrated the fact that Senegal is making strong progress in many areas, particularly in the area of food security so I will not dwell on that, but let me give you some other examples. The MDG awards ceremony that took place two nights ago has identified Liberia as having shown outstanding leadership and commitment in promoting gender equality and women empowerment. Mr. Chairman, your own country, Nepal, has dedicated itself to reduce maternal mortality by 60% in less than ten years.

Bangladesh has succeeded in reducing infant mortality in achieving boys and girls equality in the primary education. In Malawi strong efforts by the government have helped to secure in the area of agriculture.

However, even though some progress is being made the situation still remains precarious for the most vulnerable. FAO estimates that more than 900 million of people on this planet will not have breakfast this morning and are not sure where the next meal will come from. Most of the least-developed countries including the African least-developed countries are the epicenter of the crisis with continuing food insecurity, a rise in extreme poverty, high child and maternal mortality rate, and a large number of people living in slums. Due to the recent economic and financial crisis, 92 more million people will remain in extreme poverty by 2015, and according to UNICEF maternal death in sub-Saharan

Africa is the highest in the world. A woman in sub-Saharan Africa has one out of sixteen chances of dying in pregnancy or childbirth compared to one out of four thousand in the developed countries, the largest difference between poor and rich in any health indicator. This figure is truly shocking. No woman should face a high risk of losing her life while giving birth.

These are some of the reasons why the Fourth United Nations Conference of the least-developed countries in Istanbul is crucial. It is an opportunity to re-examine the entire development paradigm in the light of the recent global crisis and persistent poverty and to keep the momentum derived from this MDG Summit in support of the most vulnerable. Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, it remains our ambition as an office in charge of the least-developed countries to see more countries graduating from the least-developed countries category during the next decade.

The United Nations Secretary General has signalled his determination in this regard and will be attending personally the Istanbul conference. He also recently appointed a group of eminent persons chaired by the former president of Mali, Excellency - - , to raise awareness and help us build the international solidarity needed for the success of the Istanbul conference.

Before I conclude, please allow me to mention some of the priority areas that have been identified both by the LDCs themselves and their development partners as a priority for the next plan of action. First, considering the pivotal role of agriculture in poverty reduction, it is critical to prioritize agricultural development through increased investment, especially in small holders of agriculture to enable them access to locally adapted seed, fertilizer, animal feed and other input in order to increase agricultural production.

Second, given the poor state of infrastructure in the most vulnerable countries more resources will be urgently required to close the huge infrastructure gap.

Third, while ODA to the poorest country has increased in recent years, donors remain significantly off track in meeting their eight pledges. This calls for an increase of ODA and targeting it to the priority sectors including

productive sectors while simultaneously improving aid effectiveness.

Fourth, in view of the devastating effect of climate change on the most vulnerable countries, adequate, predictable, and sustainable financial resources would be needed for climate change adaptation.

Fifth, more effort is needed to develop the enormous human capital potential that exists in many least-developed countries including through dedicated schemes for building skills across a wide spectrum of needs for least-developed countries' economy.

Lastly, there is a need for deliberate policies and interventions such as enhanced -- mechanisms, strengthen social protection, universal access to basic services in order to reduce vulnerabilities of individuals and communities and construct more socially -- societies. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Thank you, Ambassador Diarra for your remarks and especially the commitment and the efforts that the OHRLLS is making in order to support the LDC countries. I would like to on behalf of all of us thank you for your personal presence here today. Now, I would like to invite Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan, Ambassador of Turkey, Ambassador -- Turkey here, as the country, which is going to host the LDC IV conference. You have the floor, sir.

ERTUGRUL APAKAN: Thank you, Ambassador Acharya. Honorable President Wade, the president of Senegal, and Under Secretary General Diarra and distinguished colleagues, at the outset I would like to extend a warm welcome to the President of Senegal, and we are grateful to him for his political and intellectual leadership for the global process of development. Today we are again benefitting from his wisdom and from his ideas and thinking.

I should say that his thoughts were very inspiring, and I should also emphasize that I believe that the women dimension in the Istanbul conference will be one of the main components and one of the main dimensions of the conference, the participation of women in the development process. The women's' organizations are also showing great interest in the preparation for this conference. This is my impression.

We are just moving from the MDG Summit to the UN LDC IV conference in Istanbul, and this shows once again the great need for sensitizing and mobilizing the international community. The parliamentarians, as what has been said by Ambassador Acharya, the youth organizations, NGOs, and we should also add women's organizations. In that respect, I am thankful to Ambassador Acharya and his colleagues for organizing this meeting, and let me also express our appreciation to the French Development Agency. I would like to express our sympathy with Professor Patrick Guillaumont. We are missing him here today, but his views, his academic perspective, is always leading us, and his ideas always merit further discussion among us. We are thankful for his contributions.

Well, the discussion here today really presents us a lot of food for thought in the run up to the fourth UN conference on the LDCs in Istanbul. The Millennium development goals provided us a general framework to achieve progress in human development by focusing on specific targets. Likewise, the Brussels Programme of Action provided much useful guidance for development work particularly in relation to their - - . The MDGs have been one of the main pillars of the Brussels Programme of Action, and many of the specific goals in BPOA rate trade MGD targets that have been success stories and lessons learned in terms of the achievement of both MDGs and the targets put forward in the BPOA. Thus, progress has been mixed with disparities among regions, - - , and even within countries. In the light of new developments on the global scene and emerging issues, challenging of developing countries, in particular the LDCs have been further aggravated.

In spite of their path-breaking nature, I believe that MDGs have a missing element, which is an economic foundation that will show precisely ways and means for the attainment of the goals. MDG VIII on global partnership partly covers this aspect, but I believe more focus is needed on the sustainability of achieved goals. The concept of sustainability has been also articulated by President Wade today in this meeting.

This brings us to the question why is the Istanbul conference crucial? The Istanbul Programme of Action to be adopted at the fourth conference to set priorities, underline commitments and highlight policies and strategies for the

LDCs and develop - - in the next decade. For that reason, we expect it to address the particular vulnerabilities of the LDCs and their sustainable development. It should contain fruitful, tangible and implementable results that will establish a concrete link between the MDGs and the development process of LDCs. Our efforts should now be aimed at specifically design policies to build their resilience by improving productive and institutional capacities. These result-oriented policies need to be shaped through strong deliverables by development partners and reinforced by national ownership. In other words, we have to establish a strong, sustainable, and balanced framework for growth and development. Certainly, the Istanbul Programme of Action should comprise effective follow up and monitoring mechanisms to assess progress with regard to commitments.

Excellencies, I am confident that both the LDCs and all the development partners will join their efforts to achieve a concrete, feasible and deliverable outcome from the fourth conference in Istanbul. This is our shared and collective responsibility. Thank you.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Thank you, Ambassador Apakan, for your statement and especially in regard to the relationship between BPoA and MDG we are grateful for a very strong commitment as well as the leadership, which is being provided by Turkey and in particular with Ambassador Apakan here in New York in order to make sure that we will have a successful conference. When we say successful, of course, the result-oriented and the ambitious and comprehensive outcome from the LDC conference in Turkey. I thank you once again for your statement. Now I would like to give the floor to Jean-Michel Severino, and you have the floor, sir.

JEAN-MICHEL SEVERINO THROUGH INTERPRETER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a great honor to be here at this table under your chairmanship and in company with the high authority of President Wade. We know the role that he plays not only on the ground by enabling increased economic performance of Senegal and the wellbeing of the Senegal population, but also his role in international and continental leadership.

My statement is linked to the statement by Mr. Guillaumont whose presence we miss here, and allow me to join others in expressing my condolences on our behalf to him. For one year, FERDI has been pursuing a working program on the

prospects of the MDGs with the 2015 target in mind where we see the end of the MDGs, hence the title of the statement because this great working program will be accomplished then.

My statement could have another sub-title or sub-title, which could be called "Is there life after 2015?" So that's what I'm going to look at here. My statement is linked in with Mr. Guillaumont's, which was circulated to you in paper. This is also part of a working program that we're conducting with my co-author Olivia - - who I am representing through this statement and which is conducted by the Center for Global Development in Washington.

We will have a very great challenge to address in 2015, which consists of knowing what kinds of objectives the international community will be able to set itself for the post 2015 period. We already know that a large part of what we're going to say in 2015 regarding the fate of the MDGs we will say the glass-well, is it half full or half empty? Mr. Guillaumont's statement shows you the extent to which the MDGs will be diversely achieved depending on sectors and indicators but also depending on countries. Some of them like Senegal have taken very big strides. Others will be lagging behind, so in a certain manner, the talks of 2015 are already set. It will be difficult to get away from it.

Now, our imagination is rather free now to concentrate on what we're going to build as a - - for action of the international community and this in a context, which will be completely revised because our MDGs were conceived at the end of the nineties, in the second half of the nineties in a context when we weren't speaking of climate change, where a large number of geopolitical data still didn't exist. There was an accumulation of criticism regarding ODA. This hadn't been yet done in such a manner as today, and the mechanism of globalization wasn't viewed in the same way as it is today as the economic crisis hadn't taken place, etcetera, etcetera. So we'll have to face an economic and political context, which is very important.

To that end, it's very important to take stock of all the criticisms that could have been leveled regarding the MDGs. When we read the academic literature or literature from development agencies on the MDGs or that of the think tank institutions, the number of criticisms targeting the MDGs is remarkable, and we even wonder if the concept could

technically intellectually survive given all this criticism. So this criticism concerns the question of conception, the MDGs are arbitrary in the themes chosen, they're imbalanced, they give too little place to the social aspect and not too much to economic. This is a point that Mr. Diarra and President Wade also mentioned. They forget entire subjects. For example, we don't see the theme of energy present in these goals. There are major conceptual problems to know whether we are speaking of a pact, or of a goal. One classic example is the issue of education. There could be an improvement in the enrollment rate, which is the MDG, which cites also the deterioration of the quality of education. In fact, therefore we would then have a degradation of knowledge capital of the population and of pupils. There is a question of coherence. These MDGs are not linked with other major indicators. The best known of them is human development of the UN where it is very difficult to make a bridge between the various concepts. There is now connection with all of the array of environmental indicators. There is a lot of mix between processes, means and goals. Certain indicators concern goals, other processes. There are many quantification flaws. Quantified indicators for the MDGs are often arbitrary. They are disconnected, de-linked from macroeconomic reality, and in a certain way we could say that these MDGs are a kind of boomerang indicator in terms of communication since we have noted the failure to achieve certain MDGs when the reality in 2015 will be testament to a very big change compared to 2015, but that's communication and the way that the quantitative objectives were conceived lead to flaws in reporting. There is no connection with financial flows, be it private or public/private flows.

Finally, the geographic concept behind the goals is vague and has a lot of contradictions. Are we talking global goals or country-specific goals? Are we in a top down or bottom up approach? And the question of the LDCs is a good example of this situation. Since the vague nature of the goals has not substantially allowed us to focus achievement of the MDGs on the poorer countries, all the other indicators that we see that - - countries, emerging countries will have achieved the MDGs faster than the LDCs, but at the same time international financing has not been prioritized towards the poorest countries. The increase in ODA has rather been toward the middle-income countries and emerging countries, developing countries, since the start of the century.

So, the lack of geographic concentration leads to a lack of focus ultimately on the poorest countries, the ones that need international mobilization the most.

Now, what do we do with this list of criticisms? Sometimes we can wonder whether we should even have the MDGs or international community goals starting from 2015. Moreover, particularly as fundamental problems have been added in the last 15 years, the first of these entered into the discussions of issues of social global justice, ideas of social security safety nets, there was considerable enlargement of international policy goals beyond issues of poverty setting goals of international sanitation, environmental consolidations and finally the concept of ODA itself is under increasing pressure to be re-defined. It's very important to make progress in the concept because the clarity and the future of what happens in the post-2015 period are very important for the LDCs because the LDCs depend in particular on public international financing flows, and these flows very much guided by these intellectual conceptual categories, which can be rather bureaucratic, academic, abstract, but which have a very important operating power in financial flows for the vulnerability of the LDCs developing countries is higher. There are opportunities to voice their own worries as will be the case with Istanbul next year, are less important than they are for other countries, and for all these reasons, the debate on the future of the international community goals must be launched very quickly so that the poorest countries in the world can be part of a global public framework that secures financing flows in the interest of international policy.

At this stage, we'd like to begin the debate with a number of discussion proposals. First of all, I'd like to make three statements, three main statements, that guide the drafting of what should take place after 2015. First of all, we must mobilize around generating a new policy framework, public in terms of global convergence, because the MDGs despite all the conceptual/technical flaws are a unique opportunity, a new opportunity for communication to build coherence in the international community's work and also for mobilizing financing.

We need the MDGs right from the outset, so we need to get this work started straight away. Secondly, we need to draw lessons from the past, and we must find a fair balance

between re-creating a public policy framework, which must distance itself from the flaws, errors, contradictions of the previous generation, but which at the same time must be sufficiently close to what happened before so that we don't get the feeling that the international community is completely re-writing the script to hide a previous error simply because all the public and private efforts otherwise will be lost in a radical redefinition that will be based on a completely different conceptual basis. We have a very delicate balance to strike. Finally, the conceptualization of this framework is delicate because we need to take this opportunity to conceive it in coherence with time horizons, macro capabilities, the existing environment, indicators and commitments of the international community that are in a more coherent framework than before. Therefore, this future generation of goals can't be conceived vaguely. They must be linked with an existing set up which is self-comprehensive.

At this stage, it seems possible to begin making a number of specific proposals on the architecture of what these goals could be. The proposal that FERDI is making will be to conceive a framework of goals based on three categories, three converging approaches. The first consists in identifying a final pact for the world population in the time horizon, which is relatively far off, 2050, and on goals, which are truly concrete goals, increasing life expectancy, improving income, raising the poverty level, improving human capacities particularly of collective knowledge, all of this expressed in terms of general goals of the global population in particular for the poorest countries with goals to be achieved as I said on a country-specific basis. Here it is a matter of defining a framework of general wellbeing for our planet with a mid and long-term time horizon. This framework, of course, must be expressed in a manner so that it's impossible to rule out any sectoral work. One of the phenomena, which has hampered the reaching of the MDGs was the confusion between the achievement of a given goal, for example in the field of healthcare education and allocation of budget to healthcare and education budgets, which are two different things. I think we need to take the opportunity of the new generation of goals to break this relationship, but we also need specific elements allowing us to pave the way towards big results. That's why we would suggest defining a series of indicators of access to central services, which would consist of affirming rights. For example, the

international community today is moving forward fast toward recognizing the right to water. The United Nations General Assembly recently adopted a resolution to that end, and we should commend the work carried out by the UN in that sphere.

But we can link a right to water with a specific goal of access to public service of water be it managed publicly or privately, it's not important, which would be the specific linkage of this right and which would be a contribution to the very great objectives of improving life expectancy at birth of morbidity, which would be set.

So there are a certain number of major fundamental rights that can be affirmed, the right to water, to energy, to healthcare, to education, to sanitation, and linked with goals of access to public services. And we would make this very specific - - which would guide sectoral allocation of funds and would consist of a kind of social security network at world level and would consist of defining a minimum threshold for services that every person in this world would have a right of access to. Finally, beyond that we could define conditions conducive to an environment allowing the achievement of these goals or which consists of common ethical goals, a concept of sustainable growth, the role of women, this could be reaffirmed, the role of peace, diminution of conflict, and better governance. These cross-cutting goals could be the subject of precise quantitative commitments but also qualitative lines of action that could be expressed. What's important, too, is that these goals should be specified as having a global architecture for the planet but should also be determined as being goals to be achieved by each country, each category of countries, which would allow us to identify very specifically being a specific framework for reaching the goals. We could define the LDCs as being a specific category where the international community should focus on-focus its resources and energy on the most.

There are a certain number of conditions that are important to negotiate successfully this category, this type of proposal or others that could be tabled between here and 2015. The first is to set off quickly and together. Five years is a very short period to conceive and negotiate a framework of goals of the international community that will commit us to a very long period, and we must ensure that these negotiations include right from the outset not only the

poorest countries themselves but all of the development partners, be they private, public with various degrees of government. The definition of common goals for the long term must be a broadly participative definition, and here we need to also draw lessons from the way the MDGs were conceived. We must recognize that the construction of the MDGs was a technocratic construction, very institutional. It wasn't very participative, and then we need a lot of time after 2000 for those goals to penetrate the various actors, to develop that time to gain ownership of them, and time for them to become true guiding principles for action. It's only very recently that we reached that stage, so we really need the preparation process to allow ownership of the goals. Once again, that should be five years. Next we need to link the discussion of these goals with the discussion on ODA and more broadly on financing for development. Once again, this was a very large flaw. On the one hand we continue to have a lot of talks on 0.07, 7%. On the one hand there was innovative financing. On the other hand, there was no connection, and here we need to make a direct link with international negotiations, which are taking place particularly on climate issues where particular commitments have been assumed or will be assumed in terms of financing. All this means that the task that we face is immense. It's absolutely crucial for governments for the structure of public global policy after 2015, and we need to start right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: I thank you, Mr. Severino. I think you have put forth a number of very important views, which we are struggling very hard, especially when we talk about MGD VIII. This has never been quantified. This was one of the major issues that we discussed during the preparatory process of this conference, and you are right that you have taken a number of issues—what we really should do after 2015, and a number of issues you have floated I think which are very important when we talk about the comprehensive and sustainable development process especially in the LDCs although we are most vulnerable among them. I thank you for your contribution.

Now, we are running out of time, so I must say that I would ask the next speaker to limit their presentation as much as possible to three minutes. I must be putting a lot of pressure, but I would like to now give the floor to Christian

Masset, Director General for Globalisation, Development and Partnerships for Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France. You have the floor, sir.

CHRISTIAN MASSET THROUGH INTERPRETER: Thank you, Chairman. First off, we would like to send words of condolences to Mr. Guillaumont. We are also honored to have the immense pleasure of having his eminence the President of Senegal with us at this table. I will first look at some background information, some context, and some method.

Background—it's very good to have the LCG IV in Istanbul in May. It is a timely event because there are risks given the priority given by the international community to the LDCs. Numerous factors—first there is the crisis. The accent on growth has meant that in the work of the G20, there has been at least at the beginning a trend to focus on the middle income countries. France, along with other countries, fought to correct this, and one of the first effects was the allocation of a part of the sold gold from the IMF to the LDCs. We must also look at the evolution between grants and loans. This is also important. Third, there is discourse now regarding the utility and need to focus on cash on delivery, performance issues, special — for the most performant countries. This is very good, but we need to have balance here because some countries do not have the possibility of being performant. We must be following this very closely and even more so because we are in a more and more vague category because we talk more about fragile states, vulnerable states, which is a category within LDCs post conflict countries. So there is a whole big universe of LDCs, and we often now look at it increasingly by category. The risk then is that a certain amount of LDCs will remain by the wayside if they're not in the right category because we have LDCs that are not vulnerable states or weak states but that are emerging states, some aren't, so they're moving ahead but there are still setbacks, and these countries might find themselves by the way side because they do not fall into the right category. So it's important to focus the cameras back on the LDC meeting in Istanbul.

Now method—we really do need to re-focus our priority on LDCs, and in France we have done this. Our cooperation for development is focusing on 14 priority LDCs. I think that this is a very important point as well. Secondly, as the president mentioned and as has been underscored by Mr.

Severino, there is the importance of a comprehensive step forward, progressive work, gradual work, because there are transitional states such as Laos. There is then problem of tools. There is LDC but strong growth so we don't have the right tools necessarily to help there, so what this means is that we have to work on these different categories. This is a country-by-country approach that Jean-Michel mentioned. Each system has to be well calibrated to reflect the position and status of a country to look at the tools they need. Sometimes we have instruments that aren't all of the instruments that we need.

Now, the last point, there is the matter of exogenic shocks from abroad. This is important for LDCs, and this has to do with global public good when we talk about energy security, when we talk about food security or climate. These come to bear so there is a need to develop instruments in this context. - - promoted reflection on how to respond to these external shocks, and this is essential. For each one of these negotiations on global public goods, there has to be a specific category that looks at LDCs and LDC financing. That's what we did for climate, and that's what we see also with the Festant [interposing] initiative.

Now, this is the last point, and then I will stop. There is G20. The G20 in Seoul will put development on its agenda, and this is considerable innovation. The G20 can't and won't focus on everything but will focus on those areas in which there are areas which I believe there is value added. There will be eight baskets or eight sectors, and it is very important for each one of these baskets to in each case have a reflection on what we should do for LDCs. So, together we can work toward ensuring that we look at the question of what the G20 can do for the LDCs. How can each of the programs be adapted to the LDCs in these eight sectors with the work of the G20? I think that we should very much focus on that. We'll be meeting in Istanbul. We'll be working together, and I think that today's meeting has been extremely useful as we move toward that. Of course, we have the wise words of the President of Senegal with us. We'll keep his words in mind, and as we move toward the horizon of 2015 as we've heard from Jean-Michel. Thank you.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Thank you, Mr. Masset, for your contributions. Of course, we are looking toward the leadership of France after Korea G20, and then the

development issues and the issues related when we talk about development, global development. Naturally, the issues related to the LDCs we have said must come in the forefront. So we are very glad to hear your commitment and of course your efforts and your contributions that you have been making, your country has been making to the promotion of the economic and sustainable development of the LDC.

Now, I would like to give the floor to the president of the LDC - - to hear the civil society perspective. Dr. - - . Maybe just two or three minutes because I have been told that there are very few minutes left.

MALE VOICE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Abdoulaye Wade, President of Senegal and ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for allowing me to speak and share some of the Civil Society perspective on this very significant development process. That will pave the path for the next generation of the development agenda for the LDC citizen. Today we need to deliver it, and how we can all work in partnership in charting out the next, especially - - to our real sustainable development and - - eradication in LDC, to make the fourth United Nation conference on LDC in 2011 a success.

The least developed countries, we must bear in mind, are a special group of developing countries, that require specific development attention as was first recognized by the UN - - the pact, that number that LDC has more than doubled now, from 24 to 49 today, demands serious re-thinking of the development model that have held in practice as a UN report on old social situation in 2010. Re-thinking - - affirms there is the need for a strategic shift away from the market fundamentalist thinking. Policy and practices of - - more sustainable development, - - policy appropriate to national conditions and circumstances. The road from New York to Istanbul must, therefore, mark the making of a development agenda that productively works for the LDC population, especially for the much more vulnerable and marginalized within LDC.

Mr. Chairman, all countries have differences that must be considered when establishing national priorities and programs. However, LDCs also share some common challenges being bound by limited financial resource and technology. They are also often characterized by lack of democratic

governance. Many face additional areas of conflict, war, violence and political instability, not to forget inherent geographical and environmental constraint.

Mr. Chairman, - - the multiple crises of recent years have also not spared the LDCs. The global financial and economic crisis, food price crisis, energy crisis and the crisis brought about by human-induced climate change are affecting LDCs situations, where ironically they are the least responsible. Their suffering is therefore extremely disproportionate as well as being unprecedented in its scale.

As all of you are aware, the MDG VIII target is about addressing the special need of these developing countries, MDG VIII target B, which includes - - access for LDC product, export - - program of debt relief to heavily indebted poor countries, and cancellation of official - - debt, and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction. However, implementation has been inadequate to address these needs of LDC, and the measures prescribed in the goal have by far been least successful. MDG - - for 2009 states that less than half of - - countries are meeting 0.15 to 2.0% of target official government - - for LCD, for the Brussels Programme of Action. The distortion of - - figure by inclusion of debt and other non-aid items, especially development partner countries, to get away from the blatant undermining of their own commitment, the - - LDC 2009 Report, says what will actually happen in LDC over the next few years will critically depend on ODA - - . It is imperative that ODA not be reduced particularly under the present condition. ODA can play an important role in long-term development by facilitating social spending and productive capacity building, but the composition and volatility of ODA continue to work against such goal. LDC was campaigned for more and better aid, which means real aid that is oriented towards development effectiveness as opposed to the dominant - - approach further mirrored by conditionalities that encroach upon the principle of sovereignty.

Achieving the MDG and LDCs is a global responsibility that call for a global campaign and advocacy bound by genuine commitment. While reviewing the progress made on MDG at high-level plenary meetings and our next five year's progress - - MDG and in the LDC must be assessed separately. We must be clear that the goal containing Millennium declarations do not represent the best that humanity can do to deal with the

structural problem of chronic poverty, exclusion, gender injustice, illiteracy, disease, war, violence, environmental degradation, and that many of the goals/targets of the Millennium Declaration will not be achieved in the - - by 2015. At the LDC IV in Istanbul in 2011 the next LDC program - - must have their focus on the MDG but also beyond to materialize real sustainable development for its citizens genuinely making the 25th anniversary of UN right to development in the year 2011 as a new and promising start as the coordinator of a civil society process towards the LDC IV, LDC - - looks forward to building alliances with all of you key stakeholders in making this very significant development process a real success for LDC. Ladies and gentlemen, the LDC - - is also responsible for coordinating civil society forum process globally towards even LDC conference IV to be held in Istanbul. We have had a regional consultation of African Civil Society - - . We have had regional consultation of Civil Society in the Pacific Islands. We are planning to have an Asia Civil Society consultation to prepare for UN LDC core conference in Bangkok next month and we are also organizing for the first time a European Civil Society consultation on supporting LDCs next month in Brussels.

So we would like to really seek your valuable support, engagement, and encouragement to us. We are very proud that we have received very good support from - - particularly led by the government of Nepal. We are encouraged by OHRLLS, and the host country, Turkey, to mobilize Civil Society globally, engage with think tanks, artists, singers, musicians, various sections of civil society to be represented in Turkey next year. Thank you very much.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Okay, I really need to accelerate it now. Now I would like to invite Elliott Sheharas [phonetic] representing IMF to the UN. Maybe, as I said if we can keep-

ELLIOTT SHEHARAS: [interposing] Very quickly.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Very quickly. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to all the panelists including your Excellency for a very interesting and provoking, thought-provoking presentations. I just want to make two points. I believe the Istanbul Programme of Action must be great emphasis on the issue of domestic resource mobilization in the LDCs for the simple reason that aid as we know it will

not continue to exist for very long. Prospects over the next few years are not favorable, and there is, as Mr. Masset mentioned, a very clear tendency towards the concentration of aid allocation on a performance-based criteria with the risk that many least-developed countries will be left by the wayside. The only way to face the challenges of attaining sustainable growth and development is to enhance the ability to provide funding out of their own resources or from non-traditional, non-official sources, and that includes foreign direct investment.

The second point that I'd like to raise is more of a question and is directed to Mr. Severino. I was fascinated by your presentation, but there seemed to be one element missing in that, which is the question of what sort of global governance system do we envisage as the framework for this post-2015 world? I think a lot of the debate that we've seen about the question of reforming the governance structure of the existing institutions points to the need to come up with some framework that allows for a more equitable representation of all countries, but also to facilitate, to have a platform for the definition of these goals on a country-by-country level.

This new system should in our view also I think take into account the re-definition of the multi-lateral system and its contribution, what contribution it can play to development particularly in the least-developed countries.

So, I just wanted to throw that up as a further complement to the thinking going along that we do need to ponder the architecture, the future global architecture of economic development. Thank you.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Thank you. Now, I'll give the floor to - - just for one minute, two minutes, now I'm very sorry for that, and then again to - - .

MALE VOICE: Ambassador, no problem at all. Thank you so much. I have three very short points to make. One is to re-affirm very strongly the commitment of the WTO and the director general in particular to the entire process and to convey, President Wade, that Mr. Lamy [phonetic] is very much looking forward to the visit to your country very soon.

Second, Ambassador, I think that is extremely important. You know, for anyone working in Geneva when you come to the UN it's like a reality check. We breathe, live, work, only on

trade, and then you come here and you find that trade is a very miniscule part of what is being talked about. In fact, it's not even amongst the points that Mr. Diarra mentioned. But I emphasize just trade for two reasons.

One, if you've been listening and we've all been listening to the heads of state for the last two days, every single person has criticized including my friend right now about the importance of self-generation of revenue, domestic revenue, and we strongly feel that for the LDCs to be able to come up with that money they must be provided duty-free treatment, and we look forward to LDC IV as a very strong input to this. Related to this, and that's perhaps more in terms of process, Mr. Chair, is that the LDC group in Geneva has been working in this very limited area with their own strong inputs and would very soon be providing these inputs to you. Thank you.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Thank you very much for your very important contributions. Now I would like to give the floor to madame.

FEMALE VOICE: Thanks, Mr. Chair - - so much about the important role of women in everything, I thought at least one woman's voice should be heard this morning. I would like to thank the President for the fascinating account of what he has done in Senegal. This account brought to my mind the following realization. Maybe 20 years ago we in the international development community committed a very terrible mistake. We gave up country programming, genuine country programming, and from this I would conclude that maybe at the LDC conference in Turkey you could argue for returning to the type of country programming that we had until 1990. In 1990 we broke apart the UN system by not continuing UNDP as a central funding agency, and we introduced this shopping approach, here - - there - - , the top down approach. So, maybe we should return to genuine country programming. In support of that we should probably introduce again a real multi-lateral funding mechanism within the UN system, and we should probably, we could be more bold and add to this in Turkey a proposal that maybe ODA move toward 50/50, 50 bilateral 50 multi-lateral and not the form that we have now, 25% are only multi-lateral. Fourthly, my recommendation would be that we urge those who will proceed with the international financial currency levy or another financial transaction tax that also this money be made available definitely multi-laterally and not bilaterally. Thanks.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Thank you. Now I have to give the floor to Professor Alva [phonetic] and after that I will give you.

PROFESSOR ALVA: Just to follow on that actually, I think we are saying very similar things. We had the development of countries initially forgetting the individuals. Then we went to the development of individuals, and now I think we have to re-include the development of countries into the process. I could say a lot more on that, but that is the key point. Thank you.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: You have the floor, sir, one minute maybe.

MALE VOICE THROUGH INTERPRETER: Thank you. I represent an international network regions -- President Wade I want to welcome you, reiterating the need for coherence and the response to coherence is governance. Governance was rather forgotten among the MDGs, and it's interesting that in the reflections that we'll have in the future, including in Istanbul concerning particularly the LDCs, this question of the role of governance in the achievement of the MDGs should be stressed. It's a matter of multi-lateral governance, governance of states, but also local governance. I want to stress this dimension. In a few days time in Dakar we will have an important meeting between French MPs and Senegalese MPs to take stock of their cooperation. Essentially, the work conducted directly concerns the MDGs, and I hope that that reflection within the forum of the UN, within the UN agencies, won't overlook the specific role played by local elected officials when it comes to the struggle to achieve the MDG on the ground. Thank you.

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: Thank you very much. [background conversation] Would you like to say something? I would like to give the floor to his Excellency the President for just a few minutes. Thank you.

ABDOULAYE WADE THROUGH INTERPRETER: Thank you, Chairman. I just merely wanted to welcome your efforts to have this meeting and also the results that have come thereof. Just a few comments, and then I will allow you to conclude as we move toward Istanbul.

One, for me there is no development, there is no attaining the MDGs without innovation. I'd like to go back to this point. The countries must invent something. We have the definition of poverty in the UN. It is a lack of that which

is needed by families, by people, the lack of habitats. The poor do not have good housing, good health, good nourishment, good access to health, lack of clothes and lack of care for the children. It is an environment that is not a good environment for them.

Let us go back to my criticism of this separate treatment of these items. If we look at health and education, well, all of these factors affect health. All of the sectors that we can look at are going to influence mankind, and mankind is a product of the education and everything else. The international models do not address it as such.

Secondly, having listened to Mr. Severino, he has excellent ideas. You know that with Mr. Guillaumont we have invited intellectual notables together to reflect on international governance and beyond. Where are we going? Where is the UN heading? And we have begun by creating a committee to be working up to the G8 and the G20, and then that led to the need for this global reflection that we need beyond 2015 what's in store. There was the idea of a meeting in Dakar. We had thought about October, but we'll have to look at the rescheduling of that because the agenda is quite heavy.

Rights—rights to education, in the constitution of Senegal, I put in the rights of education, and I said to the people of Senegal, if your child cannot go to school, you have to bring the state before the courts. It's very daring, of course, but if you have a school in a village, you can put the children in the school and then of course that child graduates and you need more classes and this increases expenses.

I would conclude by saying that in each domain, in each area, you must have a strategy. Education is the strategy of imbalance. I put 40% in education. That is not balanced, but it's a choice that I made based on the role that man plays in development. In gender equality we brought about parity, and also the people have been empowered and taken ownership of the issue of HIV/AIDS. In the area of health, also I spoke about the neighborhood godmothers. That's another effort, and there is the accelerated growth strategy. That is how we have been looking at development.

So, in Senegal, we have the lowest level of AIDS in all of Africa, and I tell my African colleagues to go into our

neighborhoods and look at our new neighborhoods that we have built, low-cost housing. How much does it cost? Seventy dollars per month, and we can have a house. We have built these neighborhoods with this housing. We have 3,000 such housing units, and these are nice houses.

So we've been trying to move ahead with all the resources we have, and there are groups from abroad that come in and see these projects and want to replicate them. So, for me in conclusion I would like to say that this meeting has been extremely interesting. We must show imagination. We must show as well a good measure of creativity. We cannot exclude humans from development. Just because I have money does not mean that I can do anything.

The United States has given us African growth opportunity. For some countries, they say you can export as much as you want tariff-free to the United States. We have had that for ten years, but I can't send a ton because I don't have the infrastructure that will allow me to export that to the United States. And I say it frequently, I would like to do as -- does and export all of that to the United States, which has allowed for the creation of different industries. But I can't. All of these elements point at the great complexity of development.

At any rate, Mr. Chairman, thank you and I commend all of those who have joined this initiative to meet today to discuss LDCs, and Mr. Severino, to conclude again I propose a reflection as I have done with Mr. Guillaumont. I propose the creation of a category of countries who are candidates for emergence, emerging country candidates within the LDCs, intermediary countries, or emerging countries or candidates for emergency because I'm sure we're sort of on the border between the LDCs and the middle income countries. So this might allow us to even jump over some steps and go straight from LDCs, and of course I'm dreaming because I dream a lot, to go that is straight from LDC to an emerging country. I'm not sure, but you know what without dreams what are we able to accomplish? I thank you very much.

[applause]

GYAN CHANDRA ACHARYA: I think we have had a very good discussion so it is once again my pleasure to express our sincere thanks to his Excellency, the President, for his honored presence,

as well as the very important wisdom that he has left with us. Thank you very much, sir.

[END FERDI_Conference_-_September_22__2010.mp3]