

**H.E. Mr. Ardasher Qodiri, Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to
UNESCAP**

Proposals for the
Statement at the 80th Session of the ESCAP
*Agenda Item 3. Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and
Small Island Developing States*

- This year is an important milestone for the Group of Land Locked Developing Countries as we move towards the comprehensive review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Decade 2014-2024 (VPoA) in Kigali in June 2024.
- In our view, the implementation of the transit potential of landlocked countries, including the implementation of regional transport and transit corridors that correspond to the priorities of the VPoA, will help accelerate the achievement of sustainable development goals.
- It is well recognized that lack of access to sea and isolation from world markets complicates the integration of our countries into the system of multilateral trade and has a negative impact on other aspects of sustainable development.
- Therefore, we focus our commitment to the decisions and recommendations of the VPoA to enhance its connectivity, with a special focus on the improvement and development of transport and energy infrastructures, promoting and expanding sub-regional and regional trade.
- Tajikistan considers the energy sector, along with transport, as one of its top priorities. Hydropower stations, which generate 98 percent of the electricity in Tajikistan, are the country's main source of green/clean energy.
- The Government of Tajikistan is taking comprehensive measures to balance the generation and consumption of energy by modernizing and increasing the capacity of its existing hydropower stations. Tajikistan supports the implementation of principles of the green economy. Therefore, we adopted the "Strategy on green economy development in the Republic of Tajikistan for the period of 2023-2027".
- We believe that it is necessary to encourage, promote and invest in every possible way in increasing the share of renewable energy among LLDCs, in the transfer of modern and advanced technologies, in improving the efficiency of energy supply and energy saving.

- Another area where Tajikistan has a stake is water. It is the most valuable resource without which all our efforts to bring about development, peace and prosperity to the world would be lost.
- As you know, Tajikistan is the initiator of a number of water-related resolutions at the UNGA, including the resolution proclaiming the period of 2018-2028 as an International Decade for Action 'Water for Sustainable Development'.
- We consider that there is a need to fully utilize the opportunities, offered by the Water Action Decade, as well as the Water Action Agenda adopted as a result of the UN historic 2023 Water Conference to promote the timely implementation of water-related sustainable goals and targets in the LLDCs.
- It is worth mentioning that to support the implementation of the Water Action Decade the Government of Tajikistan plans to host the Third International High-level Conference on the implementation of the Decade on 10-13 June 2024 in Dushanbe.
- Taking this opportunity to invite the esteemed Group of LLDCs, ESCAP Members and Associate Members to take an active part in the Dushanbe Water Conference.