Thirty-Fourth Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council

Universal participation to the UN Human Rights Council:
Impact and ways of reinforcement of the actions undertaken with the Trust Fund for the participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States

Remarks by:
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(check against delivery)

What is the impact of universal participation to the Human Rights Council on its work? What are the outcomes of the Fund’s activities after 5 years: results and prospects for the future.

Thank you for the floor,

Excellencies, colleagues,

It's a pleasure to be here today. We recognize that LDC and SIDS participation is important in the Council. SIDS make up a fifth of the UN membership. Together, LDCs and SIDS represent 40% of UN Member States. But we are not the voices traditionally heard on the Human Rights Council.

What makes the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund great, and what exemplifies the role we can play is the participation, engagement and even the activism of the diplomats who come to Geneva. Because our role, is one that is indeed unique. And the LDC/SIDS perspective is one that is essential to how we frame discussions about today’s world.

Our role, as the representatives of LDCs and SIDS, is to represent the many colours that compose the diverse tapestry of the community of nations. Our role is to represent the most vulnerable of humanity, and to ensure that the path we chart, takes us arm in arm, into a brighter future for everyone. It is a fundamental truth that now lies at the heart of many multilateral frameworks; including the 2030 Agenda: that it is only together that we may succeed.