



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 February 2016

Excellency,


I take this opportunity to thank you for your generous offer to host the comprehensive high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), to be held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016. The review is being conducted pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 69/231 and 70/216. As decided by the Assembly, the midterm review will be carried out at the highest possible political level and will result in a negotiated and agreed outcome in the form of a political declaration.

The review will comprehensively assess the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action to date. In so doing, it will take stock of the progress made by LDCs in meeting their development aspirations; provide an opportunity to share good practices and lessons; identify bottlenecks and actions needed to overcome them; and take into account new challenges and emerging issues. The review furthermore aims at strengthening the global partnership for LDCs.

The midterm review will take place after the adoption of a number of landmark agreements in 2015, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The High-level Political Forum, as well as the Economic and Social Council Dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system, are expected to give prominence to the needs and aspirations of LDCs.

Your participation in the review will signify a strong commitment to, and solidarity with, the development endeavours of 48 least developed countries. I look forward to seeing you in Antalya.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN Ki-moon

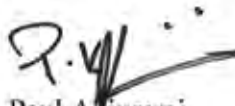
His Excellency
Mr. Ahmet Davutoğlu
Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey
Ankara



Note to the Chef de Cabinet
(through the Deputy Secretary-General)

**Invitation letter to the Prime Minister of Turkey to the Comprehensive High-level
Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for Least-
developed Countries, Turkey, 27-29 May 2016**

1. Please find attached, for your clearance and approval, a letter of invitation from the Secretary-General to the Prime Minister of Turkey for the Midterm Review of the Istanbul Programme of Action. The letter was drafted by the Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and reviewed by the Development Unit.
2. An earlier letter, dated 8 February 2016, was addressed to the President of Turkey. OHRLLS has since been advised by the Government of Turkey that the Prime Minister will be representing Turkey in his stead and have thus requested that a letter be addressed to him. The Government of Turkey is aware that the letter will be dated with the current date.


Paul Akiwumi
25 February 2016

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Received in ODSG

24 Feb 2016

Seen by:

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