

CLOSING REMARKS

LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund Workshop for the Asia Region

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All protocols being observed

We are now concluding the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund Workshop for the Asia region. This also concludes the last of the four Trust Fund regional workshops that were mandated by HRC resolution 34/40.

It has been a long, enjoyable and enriching journey since the adoption of this resolution, which was the second highest sponsored resolution of the HRC since its establishment in 2006.

Together, we travelled from the crystal waters of the Caribbean seas to the vastness of the Pacific Ocean. We crossed the beautiful and diverse African continent and concluded in Asia, where we traversed its deltas and the majestic mountains of the Himalayas before finally landing in *Jazeera Raajje* (name of Maldives).

This is not the end of the journey. Instead, it is the start of a new chapter that will begin at the 49th session of the HRC.

Distinguished participants,

It has been the experience of a lifetime to work closely with over 170 delegates from 71 countries. Thank you for this unique and great opportunity. Additionally, and more importantly, it is worth noting that we have remained in contact with the delegates of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund programmes after they completed their participation, resulting in a worldwide network of collegial support.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all of you for sharing your experiences of the workshops with your colleagues back home and for your continued engagement in promoting and protecting human rights.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank all of those who have contributed to what is now recognized as a Human Rights Council success story.

My renewed thanks to our wonderful host countries: Guyana, Fiji, Burkina Faso & Mauritius, and of course the Republic of the Maldives, whose motto is *the sunny side of life*, which we enjoyed, although only virtually.

See you all on the 1 of March 2022 for the High-level Panel on Universality on as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund.

Thank you - Sukuriyya