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(LLDCS)

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L AST DEVELOPED COU TR ES(LDC5)

Your Excellency, Mr. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign of the State of Qatar and President of LDC5;

- **Your Excellency, Mr. Lazarus Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi and Chair of the LDCs;**

[REDACTED]

- **Mr. Secretary General;
Excellencies;**

1. It is with great honour that I deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs).
2. The Group takes this opportunity to congratulate the State of Qatar for assuming the Presidency of the LDC5 and we are confident on the able leadership of Qatar to steer us to a successful Conference in Doha.

Mr. President,

2. While regretting that the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated the [REDACTED]

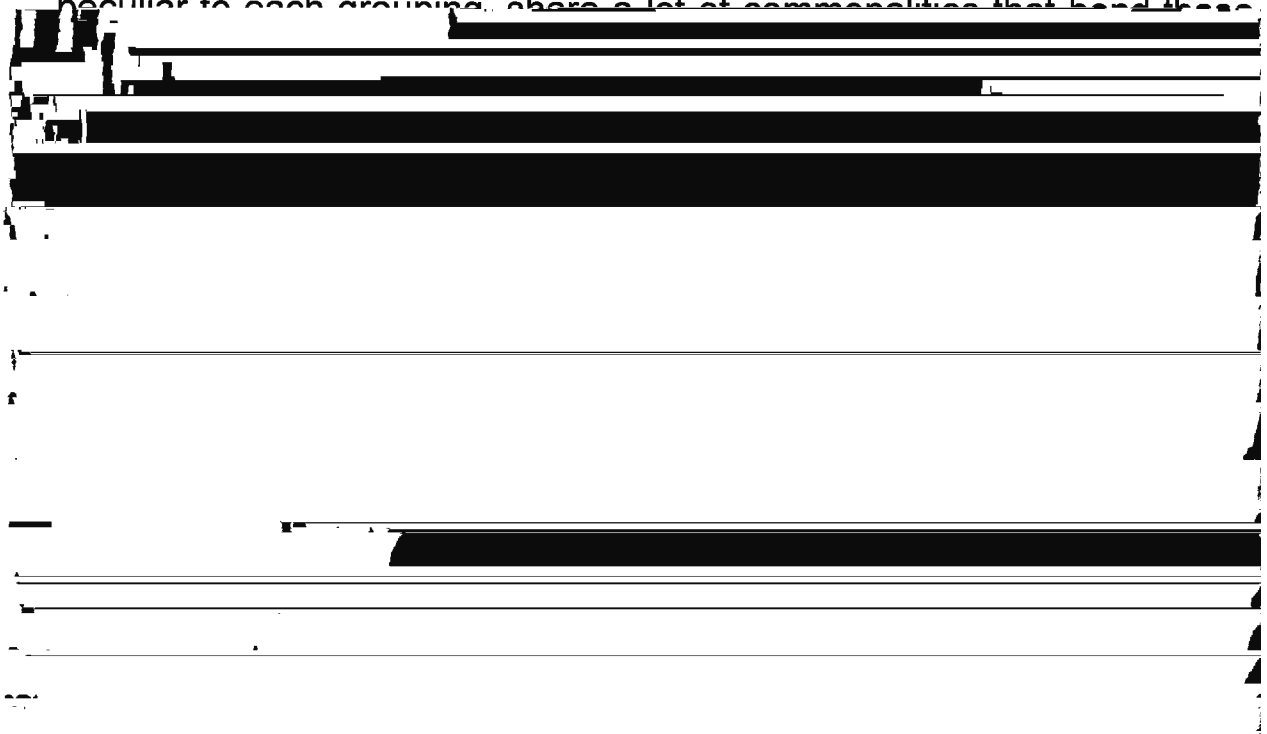
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momentum from Istanbul in consolidating the support needed to launch these countries onto a sustainable development path.

5. We also take this opportunity to commend the continued generosity of the State of Qatar in supporting the LDCs, and for maintaining the kind offer to host the Conference under the still challenging circumstances.

r. President,

6. The LDCs, LLDCs as well as the SIDS, although facing challenges peculiar to each grouping, share a lot of commonalities that bind these



group of countries together. In fact, 46 LDCs are part of the family of 91 countries in vulnerable situations, together with the LLDCs and SIDS. Furthermore, more than half of the 32 LLDCs are also categorized as least developed.

7. In view of their special circumstances, we firmly believe that it is important to continue our relentless efforts to address the challenges encountered by these groups of countries which also have overlapping

Mr. President,

9. We cannot help but underscore the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic has not only exposed, but also amplified, the DC's high degree of

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moment to give due consideration to LDCs' priorities.

14. In this regard, we call on all the Members of the WTO to deliver a favorable outcome for the most vulnerable members of the Organization to support their economic recovery, resilience building and sustainable

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

development.