





development, economic growth, and sustainable progress. This year, the Ministerial Meeting assumes special significance as we stand at the midpoint of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is seriously jeopardized by the cascading and interlined crises. However, it is encouraging that the international community has expressed its resolve to leave no one behind in the process of sustainable development as envisioned in DPoA. The least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries to emergent shocks along with persisting historical inequalities, need international support and commitment more than ever. In this context, this year's ministerial meeting will discuss the plans and strategies for mainstreaming and the timely implementation of the Doha Programme of Action which will eventually complement the acceleration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### **The Meeting**

The annual Ministerial Meeting will take place on 21 September 2023 on the margins of the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The Meeting will be attended by the Foreign Ministers and representatives of the members of the Group of LDCs and the members of the Friends of LDCs.

The Meeting will provide an opportunity for the members of the Group to share the challenges they have been facing due to ongoing crises and possible plans to cope with them. Equally, it will provide an opportunity for the Friends of LDCs to acquire recent updates on how LDCs have been coping with the impacts of crises as well as where they are in the process of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### **Key Objectives**

The key objectives of the Meeting are as follows:

1. Sharing successful policies, initiatives, and best practices in successful implementation of the DPoA and to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Reviewing