

*Draft of Statement at the
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Distinguished Chairman!
Distinguished delegates!

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan let me express our greetings and my sincere gratitude to UN ESCAP for the invitation and excellent organization of the Session.

The Regional Connectivity becomes extremely important for enhancing cooperation and strengthening of regional integration for shared prosperity. In this regard, let me highlight key priorities of economic and social policy of Kazakhstan in this direction.

The dynamic growth of political and economic development in Asia requires an expansion of bilateral and multilateral relations with the Asia-Pacific region.

For more than 20 years the Republic of Kazakhstan is committed to the goals and objectives of the United Nations. We all now are actively involved in process of harmonizing the Agenda for sustainable development for the period after 2015, which is anniversary for the UN and Kazakhstan fully supports this process.

"Strategy" Kazakhstan-2050": New policy of the established state", sets the goal of entering the top thirty most developed countries by 2050. In this context, the achievement of such ambitious goals is directly correlated with the elimination of trade and transit barriers, development of logistics infrastructure, especially above mentioned issues are most sharply faced by the Landlocked Developing Countries (LDC).

Kazakhstan has done a lot towards diversification of the economy. The National Fund has allocated more than 5,5 ^B millions of US dollars to support economic growth, including development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), infrastructure and other important directions. The course on realization of a strong macro-economic and stable fiscal policy as well as on promoting internal and external investment prospects of Kazakhstan is going to be continued. Forecasting economic growth In Kazakhstan is going to be 6% in 2014 and 6,4% in 2015.

The concept of the World Anti-Crisis Plan, approved during the 2nd Anti-Crisis Conference and Outcome of the VII Astana Economic Forum, based on

*needed - 6.4n
million*

democratic principles of countries - members of the United Nations and are aimed at the development of effective measures to overcome the financial and economic crisis and to prevent future recessions, ensuring long-term sustainable economic growth, creating an efficient and globally-coordinated policy.

Kazakhstan is following the accelerated implementation of the Road Map of Almaty Programme of Action of LLDCs and LDCs. In the framework of cooperation with many international and regional organizations such as UNECE, UNESCAP, UNCTAD, WTO, EEU, ECO, we are working on legal groundwork and realization of different projects promoting development of the regional transport infrastructure and broadening institutional development options of interregional land and sea-land transport connection.

In 2015 we are planning to complete the construction of a major transit transport project "Western China-Western Europe", which will significantly reduce the delivery time of goods in both directions. In this year the National program for development and infrastructural integration of the transport system of Kazakhstan till 2020 was approved.

We also actively are working on simplifying procedures for foreign and local investors, including amending legislative framework so the rights of investors will be better protected.

Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan decided to establish a visa-free regime for 2014 - 2015 for the citizens of 10 countries, including the United States, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea and Japan.

The signing of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) agreement in Astana, on May 25 2014, by the Presidents of Kazakhstan, Belarus and Russia became one of the historical events on expansion of the trade zone and simplification of custom barriers. The creation of the EEU is just a first step to Kazakhstan's way to the WTO which has much stricter competition rules. With the support of the regional organisations, we focus all our efforts on the adoption of a legally binding global and regional instruments protecting the interests of the landlocked countries.

In this regard, we need to consider all lessons learnt within implementation process of the Almaty Programme of Action, really protecting the interests of landlocked countries, including Rio +20, and to address future challenges of Post 2015 sustainable development.

Mr. Chairman,

Kazakhstan attaches great importance to the global issues of energy, food and water security, which have a growing impact on development and stability.

Like the energy crises, diminishing access to food and water will present serious threats to sustainable development and stability, deserving global attention.

As a country, which has achieved MDG 1, we remain committed to fight poverty. We attach great importance to the South-South cooperation which has a great potential to address issues of eradication of poverty and economic inequality in least-developed countries, in addition to develop the human centered peace.

With the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters and their global impact with visible potential security dimensions, Kazakhstan shares the view that greater attention should be devoted to the enhanced early-warning, preparedness and response to disasters.

This year we have signed an agreement with the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on the establishment of the Centre for Emergency and Disaster Risk Reduction in Almaty, which will provide effective mechanisms to mitigate risks and their consequences through a joint response, promotion of regional and international cooperation. The center is open to accession by all stakeholders. The readiness to join the Centre has said Afghanistan, negotiations on cooperation with Azerbaijan and Tajikistan in the process.

During last years, Kazakhstan has become a center for regional UN agencies and other international organizations, their further support and participation will help to transform Almaty into a UN Regional Hub.

Mr. Chairman!

Kazakhstan belongs to the countries with limited water resources and considerable difficulties in water supply issues. Most of Kazakhstan's territory comprises desert and semi-arid regions, where water supply sectors of the economy, population, preserve the stability of aquatic ecosystems is a very acute problem.

We stand for a comprehensive study and application of international experience and the principles of international water law. Only on the basis of common legal positions, mutual respect for the interests of all countries in a transboundary basin possibly to regional stability, environmental sustainability, problem solving, co-management and protection of transboundary rivers.

It should be noted the strengthening of cooperation with our neighbors the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation and Kyrgyzstan in the use and protection of trans-boundary rivers.

A number of national measures to address the effects of climate change were successfully implemented.

This year the Expert Council for the Use and Protection of Trans-boundary Rivers with Neighboring Countries was established, which will ensure that a constructive proposals and ability to further coordinated action in the field of water resources.

We see a great potential for regional cooperation in this area and continue to rely on the strengthening of the role of ESCAP in the mobilization of resources on the implementation of SPECA projects for Water Security.

**Distinguished Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,**

Now Kazakhstan as a many other countries, is facing a serious deterioration of environmental performance, pollution of natural resources and the environment.

Steps taken by Kazakhstan to sustainable development in Central Asia and other regions of the world include the preparation of EXPO-2017 "Future Energy" in Astana and "The Green Bridge" Partnership Programme, aimed to promote partnerships between the public and private sectors in Europe, Asia and the Pacific. We call upon the member states of the region to take an active part in their work.

Kazakhstan has always advocated for a comprehensive and effective cooperation on all aspects of sustainable development through greater exchange of information, best practices and lessons learned.

We express our support for the initiatives of the region and ESCAP, which make a significant contribution to the regional knowledge platform of sustainable development. Only together we can make a real progress in addressing common global challenges facing us for common prosperity.

Thank you for your attention.