

**Opening statement by the Chair of the LEG, Mr Batu Uprety  
at the NAP Expo  
Bonn, Friday 8 August 2014**

**Dear colleagues and friends,**

On behalf of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the NAP Expo dedicated to catalysing actions and support for the national adaptation plan process.

The LEG is convinced that collaboration is at the heart of efforts towards comprehensive planning and full implementation of adaptation, and it hopes that the NAP Expo would provide a useful platform to further develop and nurture collaboration.

As many of you know, the LEG was established in 2001 as part of the package to support least developed countries (LDCs) in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change. Since that time, the LEG, in accordance with its original mandate, has provided technical guidance and advice to LDCs on the preparation and implementation of their national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs).

Almost all LDCs have completed preparation of their NAPAs and are now in different stages of implementation of projects identified therein. The wealth of knowledge and lessons generated by NAPAs in the LDCs is indeed a rewarding first step in addressing adaptation, not only for the LDCs but for all countries.

The LEG also carries a central role in supporting LDCs to address medium- and long-term adaptation through the NAP process established in 2010. The LEG has put in place various modalities to support LDCs on the NAP process.

**Distinguished colleagues,**

At the request of the Subsidiary for Implementation (SBI) made at its 37<sup>th</sup> session, the LEG organized the first NAP Expo in June 2013 under the theme “catalyzing the launching of the NAP process at national level in LDCs”.

Several LDCs have since started their NAP process, including through the conduct of activities contributing to the development of a strategic framework and/or roadmap for the NAP process.

The current event is a result of the positive feedback received from the 2013 NAP Expo.

This event features eight sessions spanning over two days with a mix of plenary sessions and focused group discussions. The event has been designed as a platform for a multi-stakeholder-dialogue at both the national and global levels and space has been provided for interactions and exchange.

It is our hope that for the next two days the adaptation community at large will be actively engaged in rich conversations that will further catalyze and scale up actions for an effective conduct of the NAP process in countries. We have at this event LDC representatives and representatives of other developing countries UN organizations, bilateral agencies, civil society, the scientific community, and members of the constituted bodies of the Convention.

**Last but not least,**

Please allow me, on behalf of the LEG, to thank the Parties and organizations that formed part of the advisory group to the LEG for organizing this important event. I would like to also express our sincere gratitude for your participation to the NAP Expo, and we know that some of you have travelled quite far to be here with us.

**I now declare the 2014 NAP Expo open**