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**UN-OHRLLS**

**Statement**

**by**

**Rabab Fatima**

**Under-Secretary-General and High Representative**

**for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States**

**at the**

**3rd Preparatory Committee for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)**

**Agenda Item: Data, monitoring and follow up**

**14 February 2025**

**3.00pm – 5.30pm**

**Excellencies,**

**I thank you for the opportunity to intervene on data, monitoring and follow up. Though last in the agenda of this PrepCom, these issues are critical to effectively track and implement the outcome of FfD4.**

**Investment in data and statistical systems**

**Robust data systems are fundamental for informed decision-making and policy formulation. However, many LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS face significant gaps in data collection, analysis, and dissemination.**

**Commitment to supporting LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS in data and statistical capacity is a recurrent feature in the Programmes of Action of each of the three groups.**

**We therefore support commitments for increasing investments and capacity-building support in national statistical capacities, ensuring the availability of timely, disaggregated, and high-quality data.**

**Strengthening partnerships between governments, international organizations, and the private sector are key to enhance technical support and financial resources for data infrastructure.**

**Data frameworks for sustainable development, accessibility and innovation**

**Establishing coherent and interoperable data frameworks is essential for monitoring progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.**

**Open and accessible data can drive innovation, improve governance, and support policy coherence. We call for increased efforts to develop inclusive data ecosystems that protect privacy, ensure transparency, and leverage emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and big data analytics to enhance development outcomes.**

**Monitoring and follow-up**

**A strong and transparent monitoring mechanism is crucial for assessing the implementation of Financing for Development commitments.**

**We also encourage closer alignment with the implementation, follow-up and monitoring framework with those under the Programmes of Action for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS.**

**We emphasize the importance (in para 65[a]) of disaggregation of data, but also stress the need for complementary aggregation of data for groupings, such as LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS.**

**Excellencies,**

**By investing in data systems, fostering innovation in data frameworks, and strengthening monitoring mechanisms, we can ensure that no country is left behind in our collective pursuit of sustainable development.**

**I thank you.**