

Action" for the next decade to enable the LDCs to emerge decisively, once and for all, from their marginalization.

The Ministers welcomed the measures taken by the United Nations General Assembly to strengthen the Office of the Special Coordinator for the Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries through additional resources. They called upon the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to match this effort by redeploying internal resources so as to bring the staffing position in the Office of the Special Coordinator to levels commensurate with its mandate, including in carrying out the task of spearheading the preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the LDCs and in fulfilling its vital role in the coordination of UN-system-wide activities in favour of LDCs.

The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Thai Government for hosting UNCTAD X and for the generous hospitality accorded them during their stay in Bangkok. They also conveyed their appreciation to the Governments of Belgium, Ireland, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom for providing the resources which facilitated the participation of some LDCs at UNCTAD X, as well as to the Governments of Finland and The Netherlands and to the European Union for their contribution in support of the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.