

New York, 22 September 2024

**Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates.
Namaste!**

I am deeply honoured to deliver this statement as Chair of the Group of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). At the outset, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Secretary-General for convening this historic and significant Summit.

Mr. President,

The group of LDCs have contributed in the best possible manner to make this Summit of the Future a success. However, our minds are musing, and hearts are hurting from the fact that millions of children in LDCs go hungry every day.

When millions of our children go hungry today, where is our future? What do we mean by future? When millions of our youth languished with malnourishment and illiteracy, where can we seek our future?

Nothing could be more unjust and unethical than to be ignorant to the fact that millions of people in LDCs living in extreme poverty while a small minority in some corners of the world accumulates billions in wealth each day.

Is this the future we aspire to? Absolutely not.

International community must act now to ensure every child and young person has the chance to thrive.

Mr. President,

We equally welcome the adoption of ‘**Declaration on the Future Generation**, and ‘ and emphasise the need for its effective implementation for the wellbeing of people and planet.

Mr. President,

The Pact encapsulates the hopes and optimism of both people and the planet by reinstalling the interlinkages among peace and security, sustainable development, and human rights.

Let us eradicate poverty and hunger by investing in rural development, education, and health, and by building sustainable social protection systems to prevent setbacks and respond to shocks.

Let us create a peaceful environment conducive to equitable, sustainable and prosperous development for all.

We, the people of LDCs, are committed to implementing the outcomes of this Summit and call for meaningful partnerships to guide us toward prosperity.

Thank you!

(Time: 5 Minutes)
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