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REFERENCE: LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund

The Secretariat of the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States (LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund) presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to the United Nations Office at Geneva and has the honour to convey the following information regarding the allocation of Trust Fund support.

The Secretariat would like to inform Permanent Missions that, in light of the current financial constraints affecting the Trust Fund, and with a view to ensuring equitable access and opportunities for all eligible LDCs and SIDS, as agreed by delegations participating in the discussions of 28 October 2025, facilitated by the Permanent Representative of Zambia in her capacity as Human Rights Council Focal Point for LDCs and SIDS, the delegate programme of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund would henceforth, where support is granted, cover the participation of a government official per country in only one of the three regular Council sessions that are held during the year, as specified in its Note verbale of 8 October 2025 calling for applications relating to the Funding opportunity for LDCs and SIDS to participate in the 61st, 62nd and the 63rd sessions of the Human Rights Council, herewith attached for ease of reference. Accordingly, a country selected for support under the delegate programme will not be eligible to benefit from the Trust Fund more than once within the same calendar year.

In this regard, the Secretariat further wishes to inform Permanent Missions that priority would be given first to applications from countries that have not benefited from the support of the Trust Fund recently, with further consideration of membership to the Human Rights Council and/or absence of permanent representation in Geneva, if necessary.

The Secretariat would therefore like to invite Permanent Missions to prioritize and indicate the Human Rights Council session for which they wish to be considered for Trust Fund support during 2026, noting that such an indication does not imply or guarantee selection.

With respect to applications already submitted for the 61st regular session of the Human Rights Council, the Secretariat would be grateful if concerned Permanent Missions could confirm, at the latest **by 31 December 2025**, that this session remains their preferred choice or whether they wish to defer their application to the 62nd or 63rd session of the Human Rights Council.

The Secretariat of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 17 December 2025

To the Permanent Missions of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in Geneva