

Bonjour, good afternoon.

Six months ago, at the LDC5 Conference in Qatar, Canada affirmed our commitment to work in partnership with the Least Developed Countries to advance the **Doha Programme of Action**.

Since then, many countries have gathered in Paris at the Summit for a New Global Financing Pact.

And in Nairobi, for the Africa Climate Summit.

At each of these events, we have heard from LDCs about the need to evolve our partnerships, and work together on global challenges.

About the need to invest more in locally-led development.

And about the need for concrete reforms to the international financial architecture, to meet the needs of developing countries.

re 80 P 98 B 70 Q 3 D b 1 2 6 P P X 8 E . 3 5 7 6 8 6 4 4

La COVID-19, les changements climatiques et les conflits.

Le fardeau insoutenable de la dette, l'inflation élevée, l'insécurité alimentaire et l'augmentation des coûts de l'énergie.

Nous savons que les répercussions de ces défis se sont fait ressentir de manière inégale, et que les pays les moins avancés ont été les plus durement touchés.

When it comes to sustainable development, it is undeniable that we are not where we wish to be.

At the mid-point of the 2030 Agenda, we must renew our ambition and resolve as we tackle the work ahead of us.

And I believe that the work we do today, in partnership with the Least Developed Countries, cuts to the very heart of the Sustainable Development Goals – to those common threads of dignity and compassion that underpin it all.

That is why Canada invests more than half of our bilateral international assistance in LDCs.

For example, Canada contributes to the **Least Developed Countries Fund**, which helps the world's most vulnerable countries adapt to the effects of climate change.

And through our partnership with the **World Bank**, we support the empowerment of adolescent girls in West and Central Africa...

By addressing norms and attitudes that contribute to gender inequalities...

And by working on issues like sexual and reproductive health and rights...

And child, early and forced marriage.

