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you can count on Botswana a s Cha ir of the LLDCs to support

you on your tenure.

3. I further express my sincere apprecia tion and gra titude to H.E

M s. Schroderus-Fox for her dedication and support to our

Group of countries during her Acting role.

Excellencies,

4. I we lcome this Ca pital-based Focal Points N etwork as it comes

a t an opportune moment for us, as we approach preparations

for the Third UN Conference for LLDCs ; and also, as our

countries make all efforts to recover from the devastating

H.E

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Ladies and Gentlemen,
10. The success of global and regional development
frameworks depends on the full implementation of agreed
commitments at national level. Whilst emphasis has been put
on enhancing national level implementation, including by
mainstreaming of these development frameworks, there has
also been recognition that implementation in developing
countries -- including the LLDCs – is lagging behind.

11. The Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) recognizes the
importance of facilitating national level implementation and
invites Governments of both LLDCs and transit countries to
mainstream the objectives of the VPoA into their national
strategies.
12. The midterm review of the VPoA, held in 2019,
acknowledged that while progress was achieved much more
still need to be done.

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13. There has been a number of challenges for LLDCs,
including limited capacities and in some cases lack of
awareness on implementation of obligations and opportunities.
As a result, there is always an information gap between what
is happening at the multilateral fora and the capitals.

14. For instance, Missions of most LLDCs lack capacitates to
deal with the ever-growing demand of the competing
multilateral agendas as well as the complexity of new and
emerging issues.

15. Furthermore, coordination between government entities
and other stakeholders has also been cited as a major
challenge impeding national level implementation.

16. In this connection, the initiative to establish the National
Focal Points for LLDCs is indeed timely as it will help bridge
these shortcomings that exist between the capital-based
experts and delegations in New York, Geneva as well as other
relevant multilateral stations.

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17. I believe that National Focal Points will also be the anchor

that bring s us together with the relevant stakeholders at

national level to ensure a whole -of-government a pproach and

timely flow of information and feedback.

18. This is indeed a good reinforcement, that will ensure

national ownership due to the close and constant involvement

of the Capitals through the national focal points.

19. I implore the N ational Focal Points to work closely with

the relevant UN System organizations, including the Resident

Coordinator Offices to ensure well-coordinated efforts that

propel s LLDCs towards a chieving the SDGs and VPoA.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

20. I reassure you that Botswana, as the Gl obal Cha ir of the

Group of LLDCs in New York and Coordina tor in Geneva,

rem ains commi tted to driving the agenda of the Group in the

UN and other relevant Entities.

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21. We will continue to make all efforts to ensure that the

combined voice of LLDCs is heard