

**Global and regional efforts to support LLDCs and facilitate implementation of the VPoA:
The Experience of the Asian Development Bank
Ronald Antonio Q. Butiong
Chief, Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group
*Asian Development Bank***

Introduction

Thank you, Chair. My name is Ronald Antonio Butiong, Chief of Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group of the Asian Development Bank. On behalf of ADB, I wish to thank the UN-OHRLLS for giving us the opportunity to share

such, length in this area will continue to serve our 12 developing member economies, which are classified as LLDCs.

At the same time, we are increasingly trying to make our RCI operations more responsive to emerging needs and developments. This was certainly the case in 2020 and 2021, when the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a significant amount of our RCI support going to pandemic response. ADB invested in RCI projects to keep borders open, provide trade and supply chain finance, and protect vulnerable groups such as SMEs, border area residents, and migrants.

Between 2019-2021, ADB committed around \$27.7 billion in loans and grants to support RCI; 20% of this or roughly \$5.42 billion were allocated to

The decades-long practice and experience provided by our subregional programs enable our developing member countries to pool their collective