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The commitment of the UNCDF is remarkable. [...] The primary objective of the UNCDF is to help the poorest, the least favored and the most remote populations to access public and private finance that will otherwise escape them.

H.E. Mr. Fodé Seck Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations



Why do we partner with UNCDF? Because it is very good at what it does. [...] UNCDF's strategy reflects a willingness to invest in new and promising institutions, and to test innovations that expand financial services to the poor. [...] We have valued our partnership with UNCDF over these past 6 years, and we have been very pleased with the success of our projects together.

Ann Miles

Director, Financial Inclusion **Mastercard Foundation**

As a small, focused agency with a clear mandate and comparative advantage, UNCDF is very good becoming increasingly scarce and financing that increasingly valuable.

> **Permanent Mission of the United** States of America to the United Nations 2017 Annual Session of the Executive Board



[...] The three main tenants of the [Addis Ababa Action Agenda] are all prominent features of UNCDF's mission and programming. As the only UN agency with a focus entirely on the LDCs, UNCDF is working in places where other sources of external finance are not available. By strengthening local government actors - especially at the sub-national level - to set up conducive framework conditions for private sector activities, UNCDF supports its partner countries to generate the resources, both financial and in terms of capacity building, needed to work towards the SDGs. And by leveraging private finance both in its local development finance and financial inclusion work, UNCDF can have a much larger impact than using public finance alone. [...] For Switzerland, the core value of working with UNCDF is in the fact that it has been working in particular LDCs for decades, all the while preserving its capacity to innovate and adapt to changing circumstances. **Permanent Mission of Switzerland**

2016 First Regular Session of the Executive Board

to the United Nations

66 It is encouraging to see that UNCDF's financing methods are

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keen to involve the private sector, which would be the key to success in the SDG implementation if they are replicated in greater number of countries in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. H.E. Mr. Masud Bin Momen

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations 2017 Annual Session

of the Executive Board



UNCDF makes public and private finance work for the poor in the world's 47 least developed countries (LDCs). With its capital mandate and instruments, UNCDF offers "last mile" finance models that unlock public and private

About UNCDF

different SDGs.

resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development. UNCDF's financing models work through two channels: financial inclusion that expands the opportunities for individuals, households, and small businesses to participate in the local economy, providing them with the

tools they need to climb out of poverty and manage their financial lives; and localized investments that show how fiscal decentralization, innovative municipal finance, and structured project finance can drive public and private funding that underpins local economic expansion and sustainable development.

By strengthening how finance works for poor people at the household, small enterprise, and local infrastructure levels, UNCDF contributes to SDG 1 on eradicating poverty and SDG 17 on the means of implementation. By identifying those market segments where innovative financing models can have transformational impact in helping to reach the last mile and address exclusion and inequalities of access, UNCDF contributes to a number of



Building resilient infrastructure, creating energy for productive purposes and fostering innovation through the effective transfer of technology, including technology banks, are critical for accelerating the pace of industrial expansion on the path to graduation. In this regard, the role of agencies, such as UNCDF, should be stressed and supported by all stakeholders.

2015 Ministerial Declaration

"Operationalizing Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development for LDCs: the Path to Graduation and Beyond"

H.E. Ms. Gillian Bird

Development Goals.

We are proud to work with such an

innovative and open organization that is

making a real difference to those in need. UNCDF's private sector engagement in

delivering development outcomes has never

investment in developing countries is playing a critical role in achieving the Sustainable

been more important, and the Fund's ability to leverage private finance and infrastructure

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations

66 On LDC graduation, we welcome the fact that this will be a priority in UNCDF's next strategic framework. Bhutan is one of the countries that have been found eligible for graduation along with few other LDCs. But graduation does bring in its own share of concern, especially because of the modest success that we have achieved, most of the bilateral development partners are phasing out and multilateral development banks have started hardening their lending terms. We believe that UNCDF can indeed play an instrumental role in supporting LDCs in their smooth graduation efforts.

> **Permanent Mission of Bhutan** to the United Nations 2017 Annual Session of the **Executive Board**



Sweden appreciates UNCDF as a flexible and agile organization that can have a catalytic effect on investment for development. We know from experience that UNCDF can significantly leverage

relatively small contributions. UNCDE and creative approach pave the way for sustainable investments and leveraging of public and private resources, in support of national development priorities.

H.E. Ms. Isabella Lövin Minister for International Development

Sweden

UNCDF matured as a reliable partner of the Ugandan Government in its journey towards a brighter and more prosperous future for the country. We see UNCDF as an engine of development with its own niche that takes calculated risks, tests out new approaches, creates new markets, and attracts private sector investment to under-served markets. 99

Honorable Matia Kasaija Minister of Finance, Planning and

Economic Development Uganda

solutions to complex problems. Its key strength is initiating pilots, consolidating results and then leveraging replication by large actors. **ASM Mahbubul Alam**

The beauty of UNCDF is, it [...] provides simple

Additional Secretary and Director General, Local Government Division

Bangladesh

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Mokash savings and loans services. Phrase Lubega

Thanks to the support of UNCDF, MTN has been able to register 1.3 million users in 4 months on

Uganda

Mobile Money Director

to the United Nations



is contributing every year to its core resources. We are one of the LDCs working with UNCDF

in the implementation of international support measures for the LDCs. [...] We consider the Fund highly relevant to the Addis Ababa Action Plan, the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the Istanbul Programme of Action, and the New Urban Agenda, as well as to the challenges and opportunities LDCs are facing. H.E. Mr. Hau Do Suan **Ambassador and Permanent** Representative of Myanmar

Myanmar is a strong supporter of UNCDF and

technological advancement in Nepal. This support from MetLife Foundation, to advance mobile technology and enable financial inclusion for the underserved communities in the region, is critical and important. We are proud to be working with UNCDF to advance the cause of financial **Ala Uddin Ahmad** CEO of MetLife

We are amazed at the rapid pace of

The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) is an important UN Agency that supports

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Lao PDR. The Lao PDR is proud to collaborate with UNCDF through the implementation of several programmes, which have made important contributions to the expansion of financial inclusion of the low-income households, and the increased capacity of the local administrations to provide better

the development of many countries, including the

infrastructure, and adapt to climate change. [...] Over the past years, the Lao PDR has contributed to the core resources, as we see the value and importance in our collaboration and partnership with the UNCDF in contributing to the achievement of our national development.

H.E. Mr. Khiane Phansourivong Ambassador and Permanent Representative

of Lao People's Democratic Republic

to the United Nations