

# Key messages

- LLDCs should lead the discourse on transparency, through timely and detailed notifications, and even counter-notifications if required.
- A more coordinated response to future pandemics is needed so that no country is left behind.
- For resilient economic recovery, LLDCs need enhanced connectivity by digitalizing border processes, enhanced implementation of the TFA and targeted Aid for Trade support.
- Implementation of the TFA is critical to guarantee transparent and predictable trade and will play a major role in supporting recovery and resilience in LLDC economies.
- The development of transit corridors has produced tangible results for LLDCs, particularly in Africa, and should be encouraged and further supported by bilateral donors and regional development banks.
- It is important for LLDCs and transit countries to adopt digital interconnected and interoperable systems to expedite the flow of goods at the border and during transportation.
- LLDCs need support to tackle the challenges of a lack of human and financial resources, such as insufficient capacity or shortages of skilled and professional staff, to promote better understanding of the TFA and to increase its implementation.
- Improving trade-related infrastructure should be a priority for Aid for Trade projects.
- Trade Policy Reviews of LLDCs and transit countries should have increased focus on transit and transport infrastructure policies.
- To avoid disruptions in the export of products, it is essential for LLDCs to be informed of requirements established by transit countries that affect international trade.
- LLDCs should actively participate in the standard-setting processes under the Codex, the OIE and the IPPC to ensure that the SPS standards developed meet their needs and that they are applied to goods in transit only where the goods present a risk.
- The establishment of a facility modelled on the STDF could help LLDCs to develop the quality infrastructure necessary to meet international standards.
- To encourage businesses in LLDCs to increase the use of preferences granted in bilateral and multilateral agreements and arrangements, direct transportation rules need to be more flexible and better reflect the connectivity challenges LLDCs face.
- LLDCs should prioritize investment in industries and services that are less affected by a lack of access to the sea and a long distance to markets.
- LLDCs must place connectivity and digital technology at the forefront of their policy priorities.
- It is vital for LLDCs to continue to engage in current discussions at the WTO in the area of e-commerce to close the digital divide.
- Greater coordination and information gathering from international logistic organizations and federations, in cooperation with multilateral organizations, are needed to keep trade accessible for LLDCs.
- LLDCs can benefit from the close cooperation with – and the support offered by – non-governmental organizations and international agencies and organizations, which in turn benefit from greater inter-agency cooperation.