

Foreword by Commonwealth Secretary-General, The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC

The Commonwealth Secretariat has long been a pioneer in providing long-term capacity-building support for its developing country members. We have consistently been in the forefront of advocacy on behalf of our Least Developed Country (LDC) members for a more inclusive and responsive international trade and development support architecture.

This publication is the product of encouraging cooperation between the Commonwealth Secretariat and other members of the *LDC IV Monitor* and assesses implementation of the 2011–2020 Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) for the LDCs.

It provides an independent and objective framework for analysing progress made, and offers concrete suggestions as to how implementation processes can be reinvigorated for the benefit of LDCs, emphasising the need for transparency and accountability in relation to the implementation of the IPoA by all development partners and by national governments.