

Monitoring the development progress of countries graduating from the category

Samoa

Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/12 requests the Committee to monitor the development progress of countries graduating from the list of least developed countries and to include its findings in its annual report to the Council. In response to the ECOSOC resolution, the EGM reviewed the development progress of Maldives and Samoa in conjunction with the 2009 triennial review of the list of least developed countries.

Samoa has the fourth highest GNI per capita and the highest HAI score among the reference group of 60 countries. As compared to the review in 2006, the GNI per capita increased from \$1,597 to \$ 2,240, while the country's HAI currently place the country number 22 within a group of 130 developing countries. The country remains economically vulnerable but there is no noticeable deterioration in its relative vulnerability as indicated by the EVI. Both in the 2006 and 2009 reviews, the country's EVI scored 64 compared with a graduation threshold of 38 (also in both reviews).

On the basis of this information, the EGM noted the continued positive development progress of Maldives and Samoa. The group also noted that both countries are to graduate in the near future (Maldives in 2011 and Samoa in 2010) and reiterate the importance of developing their smooth transition strategy with the support of their respective development partners.