



MAKE TRADE WORK (BETTER) FOR AFRICA AND LDCs:

How to ensure that trade is inclusive and pro-poor?

21 July 2016, 16:30 - 18:00

Kenyatta International Conference Centre, Nairobi

Room: Tsavo 1

DESCRIPTION

Rapid trade and output growth in the past two decades have contributed to a significant decrease in poverty rates worldwide. But still too many remain left behind. In Africa and LDCs, even the best years of trade growth – and increased export earnings – were insufficiently and inadequately associated with diversification, economic transformation and poverty reduction.

In most of these countries a crucial missing link between trade performance and social progress has been the fact that trade growth has not been accompanied by structural economic transformation, nor by strong employment expansion, both of which would have led to the creation of more and better jobs for these countries' population and, hence, quicker poverty reduction.

At the policy level, often there has been limited integration and synergy between trade policy and national development policies. This Round Table will discuss how to better strengthen the links between these policies, so as to reinforce the role of trade as a means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

KEY ISSUES

- How to strengthen the contribution of foreign trade to poverty reduction in Africa and LDCs?
- How can synergies be created between trade policy and FDI policy, so as to accelerate social progress?
- What are the best mechanisms to build the links between trade and structural economic transformation?
- What role should the international community play in accelerating progress?





- What strategies should Africa and LDCs follow to diversify and upgrade exports?
- How can the impact of trade on the creation of quality employment be strengthened?
- What are the best ways to take into account the changing international trade scene (global value chains, e-commerce...) into national trade policymaking?
- How can national policymakers maximize the developmental gains from (mega) regional trade agreements?

PARTICIPANTS

Opening remarks: Mr Guillermo Valles, Director, Division for International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, and Officer-in-Charge, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD

Moderator: Mr. Ratnakar Adhikari, Executive Director, Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)

Panelists:

H.E. Ms. Jessy Carmelle Petit Frère, Minister of Trade and Industry, Haiti

H.E. Mr. Phoho Joshua Setipa, Minister of Trade and Industry, Lesotho

Mr. Deodat Maharaj, Deputy Secretary-General Economic and Social Development, Commonwealth Secretariat

Mr. Darlington Mwape, Senior Fellow, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

Mr. Aeneas Chapinga Chuma, Assistant Director General and Regional Director for Africa, International Labour Organization (ILO)

Mr. Yao Graham, Co-ordinator, Third World Network - Africa

Mr. Sekai Nzena, Head of a Public Affairs, Amatheon Agri Holding N.V.

Mr. Matthieu Boussichas, Programme Manager, Foundation for International Development Study and Research (Ferdì)

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Co-organized by

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