Ministerial Round Table: Fostering Green Economies through Trade, Investment and Innovation

A Joint UNCTAD and Commonwealth Secretariat event

Thursday 21 July, 11:30 to 13:00

DESCRIPTION

The greening of economies will require a transformation of consumption and production patterns. There is an urgent need to find new ways to produce and consume in a manner that respects planetary boundaries, combats climate change, reduces waste and preserves biodiversity. Trade, investment and innovation both have to adapt to these changes and can - with the right policies - be important drivers for this transformation. Investment can scale-up green production, trade can enhance the accessibility and affordability of green goods and services, and innovation can boost green technologies. This round table will discuss the requirements in the areas of trade, investment, and innovation to spur green economies and the development potential of this transformation.

KEY ISSUES

- What is your country experience in promoting greener economy?
- What makes green goods and services important for your economy?
- What is the state of play in the plurilateral negotiations on environmental goods agreement (EGA)?
- What is the actual or potential role of the multilateral trading system in preserving and promoting the sustainable use of oceans and marine resources?
- How can we strengthen linkages between tourism and green sectors, such as organic agriculture?
- How can innovation in agriculture contribute to the zero hunger and global climate goals?
- How can we promote investment in renewables in developing countries?
- Can innovation in renewables also be promoted?
- Can trade become part of the solution in implementing the Paris Agreement?
PARTICIPANTS

Moderator: Mr. Deodat Maharaj, Deputy Secretary General, Commonwealth Secretariat

Speakers:

H.E. Alexander Mora, Minister of Trade of Costa Rica.

H.E., Josuah Stepia Minister of Trade, Industry Cooperatives and Marketing of Lesotho

H.E. Viwanou Gnassounou, Assistant Secretary General, Sustainable Development and Trade Department, ACP Secretariat

Mr. Patrick Laederach, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) representative, Switzerland.

Mr. Malcolm Preston, Partner and Global Sustainability Leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Mr. Arvind Mayaram, Chairman of CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition and Former Finance Secretary of India

Mr. Balakrishna Pusupati, Head of Biodiversity, Land and Governance Programme, UNEP

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