



Post-Accession Forum

Maximising the Benefits of WTO Membership: A Balance of Rights and Obligations

19 July 2016, 8 to 9.a.m

Room Tsavo 2

Kenyatta International Conference Centre, Nairobi

DESCRIPTION

The WTO Tenth Ministerial Conference (MC10) held in Nairobi in December 2015 was marked by the formal adoption by Ministers of the Protocols on the Accession of Liberia and Afghanistan. Liberia and Afghanistan will become the 163rd and the 164th Member of the WTO, respectively, on 14 and 29 July 2016. Despite challenging circumstances and capacity constraints, the two LDCs successfully managed to complete the negotiations of the terms of accessions. Seven months after the MC10, Nairobi will yet again provide a platform for their trade and development agenda, this time by focusing on post-accession implementation, including needs and support.

The Post-Accession forum will be an opportunity to celebrate the WTO Membership of Afghanistan and Liberia and provide a platform for exchange on key topics on post-accession.

KEY ISSUES

This Post-Accession support is critical in ensuring that Afghanistan and Liberia maximise the benefits of WTO membership. Strong partnership and coordination needs to be sustained between the LDCs and the international community.

In preparation for the Post-Accession Forum, high-level national events focused on post-accession have been held for Liberia and Afghanistan respectively on 27-29 June and on 11 to 15 July.

The Post-Accession Forum will discuss the following key topics:

- Post-Accession Implementation Strategy – Maximising the Benefits of WTO Membership;
- Best practices on Post-Accession;
- Post-Accession support for Afghanistan and Liberia by development partners and multilateral institutions; and,
- Partnership and coordination mechanisms for post-accession



PARTICIPANTS

This high level session will be opened by the UNCTAD Deputy Secretary General and the WTO Deputy Director-General, and attended by guest speakers, notably:

- H.E. Mr. Humayoon Rasaw, Minister of Commerce of Industries, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- H.E. Mr. Axel Addy, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Republic of Liberia
- H.E. Mr. Wang Shouwen, Vice Minister of Commerce, China (TBC)
- Arancha Gonzales, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
- Ratnakar Adhikari, Executive Director, Executive Secretariat of the Enhanced Integrated Framework

CONTACTS

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