

Development Policy Analysis Division, DESA/Economic Cooperation and Integration Division, UNECE
International Conference

Geneva UNECE
April 2-4, 2008

Strengthening integration of the economies in transition into the world economy through economic
diversification

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Wednesday, 2 April 2008

10:00-10:45 OPENING SESSION

Welcome and Introduction

Marek Belka, Executive Secretary, UNECE

Rob Vos, Director, Development Policy and Analysis Division, UN-DESA

Heiner Flassbeck, Director, Division on Globalisation and Development Strategies, UNCTAD

10:45-13:00 MOBILIZING INSTITUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND INTEGRATION
OF THE ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION INTO THE WORLD ECONOMY

Chair:

Rob Vos, UN-DESA

Institutions and diversification of the economies in transition: policy challenges

Paul Hare, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh

The role of institutions for diversifying the economy in the Russian Federation (report)

Rostislav Kokorev, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation

**Explaining the performance of firms and countries: what role does the business
environment play? (report) (tables)**

Simon Commander, EBRD and London Business School; Jan Svejnar, University of Michigan;
Katrin Tinn, Stockholm School of Economics

Discussant:

Michael Ellman, University of Amsterdam

General discussion

Integration versus partnership

Vladimir Gligorov, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIIW)

The economic impact of 2004 enlargement of the EU

Mr. Maurice Guyader, European Commission

13:00-15:00 LUNCH

15:00-15:50 **ROUND TABLE 1: COORDINATING THE EFFORTS OF INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC
INSTITUTIONS**

Moderator:

Milica Uvalic, University of Perugia

Kseniia Liapina, Member of Parliament (Ukraine)
Oleg Solntsev, Center for Macroeconomic Analysis and Short-term Forecasting, Moscow (Russian Federation) (Russian)
Dragana Zoric, Serbia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (Serbia)

General discussion

15:50-18:00 **MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES: POLICIES IN SUPPORT OF ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND THEIR IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT**

Chair:
Michael Ellman, University of Amsterdam

Remittances in the SEE and the CIS: levels, trends, and determinants (report)
Robert C. Shelburne, UNECE

Statistical issues in estimating remittances in SEE and the CIS
Artur Andrysiak, UNECE

The effective use of remittances in promoting economic development
Gloria Moreno-Fontes Chammartin, International Migration Programme, ILO

ROUND TABLE 2: MOBILIZING THE EFFORTS OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS; POLICIES TO CHANNEL REMITTANCES INTO INVESTMENT

Moderator:
Robert Shelburne, UNECE

Hayk Mirzoyan, Department of Regional Economic Development, Ministry of Trade and Economic Development (Armenia)
Gloria Moreno-Fontes Chammartin, International Migration Programme, ILO
Mamuka Tsikhelashvili, International Economic, Cultural and Humanitarian Relations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Georgia)
Zamira Xhepa, Trade Policy Department, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy (Albania)

General discussion

EVENING: COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Thursday, 3 April 2008

10:00-11:30 **INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION: THE POLICY CHALLENGE**

Chair:
Joerg Mayer, UNCTAD

Trade, investments and development in the Balkans
Vladimir Gligorov, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIIW)

Discussant: **Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, UNECE**

Trade patterns and policies in the economies in transition
Michael Landesmann, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIIW)

Discussant:
Robert Shelburne, UNECE

General discussion

11:30-13:00 MARKET ACCESS FOR THE ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION AND MULTILATERAL TRADE LIBERALISATION: HOW MUCH AND HOW FAST?

Chair:
Saul Estrin, London School of Economics

The process of WTO accession and the stumbling blocks in SEE and the CIS
Zdenek Drabek, WTO

Regional cooperation in the CIS (report)
Gulnur Rakhmatulina, Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies, Kazakhstan

ROUND TABLE 3: KEY ISSUES IN MULTILATERAL TRADE LIBERALIZATION OF ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

Moderator:
Rumen Dobrinsky, UNECE

Sergey Afontsev, Institute for World Economy and International Relations (The Russian Federation)
Zdenek Drabek, WTO
Tatyana Starchenko, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy (Belarus)
Bojana Todorovic, Assistant Minister, Ministry for Regional and Multilateral Economic and Trade Cooperation (Republic of Serbia) (report)

General discussion

13:00-15:00 LUNCH

ROUND TABLE 4: EXPORT PROMOTION INITIATIVES AND THE ROLE OF THE UN SYSTEM

Moderator:
Jose Palacin, UNECE

Sergey Afontsev, Institute for World Economy and International Relations (The Russian Federation)
Henry Jackelen, United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Bulgaria
Mamuka Tsikhelashvili, International Economic, Cultural and Humanitarian Relations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Georgia)

General discussion

15:30-18:00 ENHANCING ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION THROUGH FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS

Chair:
Milica Uvalic, University of Perugia

Patterns of inward FDI in economies in transition, 1991-2006
Kalman Kalotay, UNCTAD

Foreign direct investment in transition economies: strengthening the gains through diversification
Saul Estrin, London School of Economics; Klaus Meyer, University of Bath

Discussant:
Malinka Koparanova, UN-DESA

General discussion

ROUND TABLE 5: INVESTMENT PROMOTION INITIATIVES AND THEIR EVALUATION

Moderator:
Malinka Koparanova, UN-DESA

Sergey Afontsev, Institute for World Economy and International Relations (The Russian Federation)

Carlos Griffin, UNCTAD

Dmytry Lyapin, Institute for Competitive Society (Ukraine) (report)

Gulnur Rakhmatulina, Institute for Strategic Studies (Republic of Kazakhstan)

Dragana Zoric, Serbia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (Serbia)

General discussion

Friday, 4 April 2008

10:00-10:30 **ENHANCING ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION THROUGH FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS (continued from the previous day)**

Chair:
Milica Uvalic, University of Perugia

Border crossing facilitation: policy challenges for economies in transition

Robert Nowak, UNECE

General discussion

10:30-11:30 **ROUND TABLE 6: ROLE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, CROSS-BORDER ISSUES, ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND ACCESS TO ICT**

Moderator:
Ralph Heinrich, UNECE

Rafkat Hasanov, Public Association "Investment Roundtable of Kyrgyzstan" (Kyrgyzstan)

Gulnur Rakhmatulina, Institute for Strategic Studies (Republic of Kazakhstan)

Andrei Savinykh, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the UN Office at Geneva

Erkinjon Yunusov, Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations & Trade (Uzbekistan)

General discussion

11:30-13:00 **ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE CIS: OPPORTUNITIES AND POLICY CHALLENGES**

Chair:
Sergey Afontsev, Institute for World Economy and International Relations, Moscow

Strategies for economic diversification in the resource-rich countries

Rudiger Ahrend, OECD

Policy challenges faced by low-income CIS economies

Marek Dabrowski, CASE- Center for Social and Economic Research

Discussant:
Max Spoor, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague

General discussion

13:00-15:00 LUNCH

ROUND TABLE 7: KEY DEVELOPMENT POLICIES, INCLUDING MDGS, AND OBSTACLES OF THE LOW-INCOME CIS TO DIVERSIFY THEIR ECONOMIES

Moderator:

Max Spoor, Institute of Social Studies (Netherlands)

Rafkat Hasanov, Public Association "Investment Roundtable of Kyrgyzstan" (Kyrgyzstan)

Hayk Mirzoyan, Department of Regional Economic Development, Ministry of Trade and Economic Development (Armenia)

Zamira Xhepa, Trade Policy Department, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy (Albania)

Erkinjon Yunusov, Department of CIS Countries, Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations & Trade (Uzbekistan)

General discussion

16:30-17:45 DIVERSIFICATION THROUGH KNOWLEDGE-BASED DEVELOPMENT: POLICY CHALLENGES FOR ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

Chair:

Marek Dabrowski, CASE- Center for Social and Economic Research, Warsaw

Promoting knowledge-based development in transition economies: policy options

Rumen Dobrinsky, UNECE

National diversification strategies based on knowledge based development: experiences of CIS countries

Jose Palacin, UNECE

Discussant:

Michael Landesmann, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIIW)

General discussion

17:45-18:00 CONCLUDING REMARKS

Rob Vos, UN-DESA