



## October 2015

Welcome to the LDC Portal Newsletter of the Committee for Development Policy (UN DESA). Each month, we will share with you the most important developments in international support measures for LDCs in the field of trade, Official Development Assistance and general assistance.

### News highlights:

#### Trade

ePing presented at WTO SPS workshop  
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs is participating in a WTO SPS workshop, presenting a new information system developed to give easy access to WTO SPS and TBT notification alerts. The so-called "ePing" system is developed under a UN DESA capacity development project and aims to inform the public and private sector in LDCs about changes in SPS and TBT regulations of (potential) trading partners

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#### Trade

Togo ratifies WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement  
Following Niger and Loa People's Democratic Republic, Togo became the third LDC to ratify the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). Concluded at the WTO Bali Ministerial in December 2013, the TFA will enter into force after being ratified by two thirds of WTO membership. To date, 21 members, including Togo, have ratified the agreement.

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#### General support

A technology bank for LDCs by 2017?  
Two important global development frameworks, agreed upon in July, mention the establishment of a Technology Bank for LDCs: the outcome document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The fact that the bank is mentioned in both documents and will be discussed during the UN General Assembly in September might create momentum to make significant strides in the process of establishing the bank.

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### Events and publications:

- [Committee for Development Policy Handbook on the Least Developed Country Category: Inclusion, Graduation and Special Support Measures \(second edition\)](#)
- [UNDESA workshop from 2 to 6 November, consisting of three parts \(1\) CDP expert group meeting on Expanding productive capacity for achieving sustainable development goals, \(2\) Capacity-building workshop on Productive Capacity and the Use of Trade-Related International Support Measures \(ISMs\) for LDC Graduation and \(3\) Capacity building workshop on the use of the ePing electronic alert system for export requirements from trading partners.](#)

Your views and suggestions are important to us and can be sent to [cdp@un.org](mailto:cdp@un.org)

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