



## Joint UN Workshop to support the graduation of São Tomé and Príncipe from the category of the Least Developed Countries

12-13 September 2019, São Tomé, São Tomé and Príncipe

Co-Organized by the Government of São Tomé and Príncipe, the United Nations in São Tomé and Príncipe, the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on LDC Graduation<sup>1</sup> and sponsored by the Government of Portugal

### Annotated Programme

Venue: Palace of Congresses – Room: 213

Day 1	12 September 2019
9-9.25	Registration
9.30-10:15	<b>Opening Session</b>  Introductory remarks by Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, OHRLLS, and Chair of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on LDC Graduation  Welcome remarks by Ms. Zahira Virani, United Nations Resident Coordinator  Keynote address by H.E. Dr. Jorge Bom Jesus, Prime Minister and Head of Government, São Tomé and Príncipe
10:15-10:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10.45-12:30	<b>Session 1: Graduation from the LDC category: process and implications for São Tomé and Príncipe</b>  <i>Presentation on the graduation process, identification of potential impacts and support for the preparation of a smooth transition strategy. The session also provides an opportunity to address questions by the Government and others on the graduation process.</i>

<sup>1</sup> The United Nations Task Force on Graduation of Least Developed Countries (IATF) is a group of UN entities, which convene twice a year or more often as needed, with the goal to provide strengthened and coordinated UN system-wide support to the countries graduating from the LDC category.

*Leading questions: What is the graduation process? Why is Sao Tome and Principe graduating from the category of LDCs? What is the potential impact of graduation for São Tomé and Príncipe? How can a smooth transition strategy be mainstreamed into the national development plan?*

**Moderator:** Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, OHRLLS

**Presentation:** Mr. Roland Mollerus, Chief, Secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy, United Nations Headquarters

**Panelists:**

- Mrs. Joanna Damiana, Director-General of Planning, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Blue Economy, São Tomé and Príncipe
- Ms Paula Pereira, Chief, Multilateral Department, Foreign Affairs, Portugal
- Ms. Katarzyna Wawiernia, Resident Representative, UNDP São Tomé and Príncipe

*[Q&A and interactive discussion after presentations]*

**13.00-14.30**

**Lunch break**

**14.30-17.00**

**Section 2: LDC Graduation and smooth transition: Access to finance and mobilization of resources**

*Discussion on the impacts of graduation on access to finance, ways to enhance mobilization of resources to foster sustainable development in São Tomé and Príncipe*

**Leading questions:**

*What are the implications of LDC graduation on access to finance for São Tomé and Príncipe? How can São Tomé and Príncipe mobilize additional finance to support its development process?*

**Moderator:** Mr. Felisberto Mateus, Economist, African Development Bank

**Presentation:** Mr. Roland Mollerus, Chief, Secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy, United Nations

**Panelists**

- Mr. Osvaldo Vaz, Minister for Planning, Finance and Blue Economy, São Tomé and Príncipe
- Mr. Albert Loussou, Programme Officer, EU delegation in Libreville, European Union
- Mr. Rafael Barroso, World Bank
- Mr. Domingos Mazivila, Economist, UNDP São Tomé and Príncipe

*[Q&A and interactive discussion after presentations]*

**Day 2****13 September 2019****10.00-13.00****Session 3: LDC Graduation and smooth transition: Impacts on Trade, Productive Capacity Building and Economic Diversification**

*This Session will assess the trade-related implications of graduation for STP and options for economic diversification. Discussions will cover the implications of graduation for STP's participation in the WTO, taking account of the fact that STP is still in the WTO accession process, and the expected impact on exports arising from the likely loss of LDC-specific trade preferences (WTO). A second presentation will focus on current and future work of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) in São Tomé e Príncipe. The main activities of the program in the country will be discussed, as well as mechanisms of engagement for domestic stakeholders and development partners. This session will also build upon existing and ongoing efforts towards economic diversification and poverty alleviation through trade.*

*Leading questions: What are the key elements of an economic diversification strategy for São Tomé and Príncipe? What are the relevant sectors? What is the role of the UN and its partners?*

**Moderator:** Mr. Roland Mollerus, Chief, Secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy, United Nations

**Presentations:**

- Mr. Rainer Lanz, Economic Affairs Officer in the Development Division of the World Trade Organization,
- Mr. Jonathan Werner, Coordinator for Lusophone Countries, Enhanced Integrated Framework

**Panelists**

- Mrs. Maria Lavres, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Trade and Industry, São Tomé and Príncipe
- Mr. Albert Loussou, Programme Officer, EU delegation in Libreville, European Union
- Ms Fernanda Leite, International Trade Center
- Ms. Simonne Rose, Technology Bank for the LDCs
- Mr. António Aguiar, SOCOGESTA
- Mr. Rafael Branco, Agency for Trade and Investment Promotion (APCI)

*[Q&A and interactive discussion after presentations]*

**13.00-14.30****Lunch break**

14:30 – 16:00	<b>Session 4: Reducing Vulnerability and Enhancing Resilience towards sustainable development</b>
	<p><i>Session focused on approaches to reduce structural and environmental vulnerabilities and enhance resilience based on the specific characteristics of Sao Tome and Principe.</i></p> <p><u>Leading question:</u> <i>How can Sao Tome and Principe reduce vulnerability and strengthen resilience?</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, OHRLLS</p> <p><b>Presentations:</b> Mr. Adérito Santana, UNDP São Tomé and Príncipe Mr. Cesaltino Fernandes, UN-HABITAT São Tomé and Príncipe</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Osvaldo Abreu, Minister for Public Works, Infrastructure, Natural Resources and Environment</li> <li>- Mr. Roland Mollerus, Chief, Secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy, United Nations</li> </ul> <p><i>[Q&amp;A and interactive discussion after presentations]</i></p>
16:00-16:15	<b>Coffee Break</b>
16.15-17.00	<b>Session 5: Conclusion and way forward</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Director, OHRLLS, United Nations</li> <li>- Ms. Zahira Virani, UN Resident Coordinator, São Tomé and Príncipe</li> <li>- Mrs. Elsa Pinto, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Communities, São Tomé and Príncipe</li> </ul>