



Experts Group Meeting on enhancing trade and trade facilitation for increased diversification and the structural economic transformation of LLDCs

29-30 November 2021, CR XXVII, United Nations Office at Geneva

29 November 2021

10:00-10:10	<p>Welcome and introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Erdenebileg Sandagdorj, Chief, UN-OHRLLS
10:10 - 11:10	<p>Session 1: Linkages between international trade and trade facilitation and economic diversification and structural economic transformation – implications for LLDCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Gladys Mutangadura, Senior Programme Officer, UN-OHRLLS • Dr. Sandra Seno-Alday, Director of the Dalyell Program, The University of Sydney Business School – present report <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paras Kharel, Research Director, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics, and Environment (SAWTEE) • Ms. Lakshmi Boojoo, Director General, Economic Policy and Competitiveness Research Center, Mongolia • Ms. Zodwa Mabuza, Principal Regional Integration Officer, AfDB <p>Interactive discussion</p>
11:10 -12:00	<p>Session: 2 The impact of COVID-19 on LLDCs’ trade and opportunities for building back better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Raul Torres, Counselor, Development Division, World Trade Organization • Professor Ari Van Assche, HEC Montréal (Virtual) • Ms. Fadiyah Achmadi, Sustainable Mobility Specialist, Fimotions (Virtual) <p>Interactive discussions</p>



12:00 – 13:00	Session 3: Digital trade era: challenges and opportunities for LLDCs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Maria Rosaria Ceccarelli, Chief, Trade Facilitation Section, UNECE• Mr. Torbjorn Fredriksson, Chief, ICT Policy Section, UNCTAD• Mr. Dulgun Damdin-Od and Mr. Dauren Aotalipov Kairbergenovich, International Think Tank for LLDCs Interactive discussions
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 – 15:30	Session 4: Transport connectivity and trade facilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Poul Hansen, Chief, Trade Facilitation, Division on Transport and Logistics, UNCTAD• Ms. Zodwa Mabuza, Principal Regional Integration Officer, AfDB• Ms. Ruosi Zhang, Counsellor, Trade in Services and Investment Division, WTO Interactive discussions
15:30 -16:30	Session 5: Building LLDCs’ productive capacities - policies and strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Paras Kharel, Research Director, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics, and Environment (SAWTEE)• Mr. Mussie Delelegn. Senior Economic Affairs & Chief, Landlocked Countries' Section, UNCTAD Interactive discussions



30 November 2021

10:00 – 11:30	Session 6: Trade finance for MSMEs– Challenges and policy responses for LLDCs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Nnana M. Pheto, Economic Affairs Officer, UN-OHRLLS• Mr. Yaya Ouattara, Adviser, ITC• Ms. Trudi Harzenberg, Executive Director, Trade Law Centre (TRALAC), South Africa. (Virtual)• Ms. Lakshmi Boojoo, Director General, Economic Policy and Competitiveness Research Center, Mongolia Interactive discussions
11:30 – 12:30	Session 7: The role of the services economy and trade in structural transformation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Juan A. Marchetti, Counsellor, Trade in Services and Investment Division, WTO• Ms. Emily Njeri, Mburu-Ndoria, Director, Directorate of Trade in Services, Investment, Intellectual Property Rights & Digital Trade, AfCFTA Secretariat (Virtual)• Dr. Sandra Seno-Alday, Director of the Dalyell Program, The University of Sydney Business School Interactive discussions
12:30 – 13:00	Way forward and Closing: Summary of discussions, key policy messages, and recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Erdenebileg Sandagdorj, Chief, UN-OHRLLS