**The Seventh South-South Dialogue on LDCs and Development**

**31 October 2024, Geneva, Switzerland**

**Tentative programme[[1]](#footnote-1)**

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| TIME | SESSION |
| **08.30 am** | **Arrival of participants** |
| **08:30 – 09:00** | **Welcome coffee** |
| **09:00 – 09:30** | **Opening session**  *Keynote address:*   * **Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala,** WTO Director-General   *Opening statements:*   * **H.E. Ms Kadra Ahmed Hassan**, Ambassador, Djibouti, LDC Coordinator * **H.E. Mr Chenggang Li**, Ambassador, People's Republic of China * **H.E. Mr. Petter Ølberg**, Ambassador, Norway, General Council Chair |
| **09:30 – 10.00** | **Photo session** |
| **10:00 – 11:30** | **Session 1: Revitalizing trade and development**  This session will examine the challenges the developing countries face in integrating into global trade. It will take stock of trade and development negotiations. The session will also provide an opportunity to explore possible solutions to the challenges faced by developing countries.  *Moderator:*   * **H.E. Mr Ram Prasad Subedi,** Ambassador, Nepal, Chairperson of the Committee on Trade and Development   *Speakers:*   * **H.E. Ms Nella Pepe Tavita – Levy**, Ambassador, Samoa, Coordinator of the ACP Group * **H.E. Mr João Aguiar Machado**, Ambassador, European Union * **H.E. Dr Mzukisi Qobo,** Ambassador, South Africa * **H.E. Ms Maria Pagan**, Ambassador, United States * **H.E. Mr Senthil Pandian,** Ambassador, India |
| **11:30 – 12:00** | **Coffee break** |
| **12:00 – 13:00** | **Session 2: LDC participation in global supply chains**  Despite the progress made to support greater integration of LDCs' into global trade, LDCs' share in global trade remains around 1 per cent. The session will examine the factors shaping LDCs' participation in global supply chains and explore how LDC firms could move up the value chain. The session will also look at the support provided to help greater integration of LDCs into global supply chains.  *Moderator:*   * **H.E. Mr Jean-Pierre Baptiste,** Ambassador of Chad, Coordinator of the African Group   *Speakers:*   * **Ms Allen Sophia Asiimwe,** Chief of Programmes, TradeMark Africa * **Dr Betty Chinyamunyamu,** CEO, NASFAM; Malawi * **Ms Valerie Picard,** Head of Trade, International Chamber of Commerce * *Representative from China ( IFD)* |
| **13:00 – 14:30** | **Lunch break** |
| **14:30 – 16:00** | **Session 3: Digital trade opportunities for all**  Digital trade brings opportunities for all economies. LDCs' exports of digitally delivered services have increased by a third over the past five years. Still, they remain around 1 per cent of the global exports of digitally delivered services. Improvements in infrastructure development and high regulatory compliance costs are being often cited among the main constraints preventing LDCs' greater integration into digital trade. The session will examine how the international community can help LDCs become more active players in digital trade.  *Moderator:*   * **H.E. Mr Eheth Salomon,** Ambassador, Cameroon   *Presentation:*   * **Dr Richard Baldwin,** Professor of International Economics, IMD Business School   *Speakers:*   * **H.E. Mr James Victor Baxter**, Ambassador, Australia * **H.E. Mr Atsuyuki Oike,** Ambassador, Japan * **Ms Maria Dimitriadou**, Special Representative to the UN and the WTO, and Head, World Bank Geneva Office * *Representative from China* |
| **16:00 – 16:30** | **Coffee break** |
| **16:30 – 18:00** | **Session 4: Trade, development and green transition**  From cyclones in the Pacific to floods in Asia to droughts in Africa - LDCs are on the frontline of extreme weather events brought by the rising temperature of the planet. Addressing climate related challenges and achieving net zero requires an urgent and concerted effort from the international community. The session will discuss the opportunities and challenges of LDCs to use the power of trade to support climate action, facilitate green transition and achieve sustainable development.  *Moderator:*   * **H.E. Mr Ib Petersen,** Ambassador of Denmark, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on LDCs   *Keynote address:*   * **Mr Pascal Lamy**,Vice-President of the Paris Peace Forum, Coordinator of the Jacques Delors Think Tanks, Former DG of the WTO, Former Trade Commissioner   *Speakers:*   * **H.E. Mr Erwin Bollinger,** Ambassador, Switzerland * **H.E. Ms. Nadia Theodore,** Ambassador, Canada * **Dr Chantal Line Carpentier,** Head, Trade, Environment, Climate change, and Sustainable Development Branch, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) * **Mr James Irungu Mwangi**, CEO, Africa Climate Ventures |
| **18:00 – 18:30** | **Closing Session**   * **Mr Xiangchen Zhang**, Deputy Director-General, WTO * **H.E. Ms Kadra Ahmed Hassan,** Ambassador, Djibouti, LDC Coordinator * **Ms Yihong Li,** Deputy Permanent Representative, People's Republic of China |
| **18:30** | **Dinner** |
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1. Speakers to be confirmed. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)