



**Expert Group Meeting on the Contribution and Effective Use of External Resources for
Development, in Particular for Productive Capacity Building
22-24 February 2010**

Conference Room XXVI, Palais des Nations

PROGRAMME TIMETABLE

Monday 22 February 2010

OPENING SESSION

10.00-11.00 Item 1: Election of officers

**Opening Session Remarks by Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General of
UNCTAD**

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Item 3: Contribution and effective use of external resources for
development, in particular for productive capacity-building

MORNING SESSION

11:00-13:00 **Capital flows uphill: implications for macroeconomic policies and development
strategies**

Introduction by Heiner Flassbeck, Director, Division on Globalization and
Development Strategies

Key issues for discussion:

- In what circumstances are external financial resources required for productive capacity building?
- What are the reasons behind the fast accumulation of foreign exchange reserves in many developing countries?

- What has been the impact of foreign exchange accumulation on productive capacity building and growth?
- What are the macroeconomic policies necessary to mobilize external financial resources for building productive capacities?

Speakers: *Dilek Aykut*
Senior Economist, The World Bank, Washington D.C., USA

Luiz Carlos Bresser-Pereira
Professor Emeritus, Fundacao Getulio Vargas, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Jeromin Zettelmeyer
Director for Policy Studies, The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), London, UK

12:15-13:00 Comments, Q&A, Open Discussion

13:00-15:00 Lunch break

AFTERNOON SESSION

15:00-18:00 **Ensuring debt sustainability in the wake of the crisis**

Introduction by Ugo Panizza, Chief, Debt and Finance Analysis Unit, Debt and Development Finance Branch

Key issues for discussion:

- How has the current crisis affected debt sustainability in emerging market countries and low income countries?
- How does corporate debt affect the sustainability of public debt? How can the risk associated with excessive external borrowing by the corporate sector be reduced?
- How can developing countries modify their debt structure in order to become more resilient to external shocks? Are domestic policies sufficient or is an international effort necessary for creating new and safer debt instruments?
- What are the main strengths and weaknesses of DSF for low income countries? Are the debt thresholds identified in the DSF in the right ballpark? Is the CPIA the best measure to evaluate the quality of a country's institutions and policies?

Speakers: *Bernhard G. Günter*
President of the Bangladesh Development Research Center (BDRC), Falls Church, VA., USA

Simon Neaime, Professor and Chair, Department of Economics, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon

Eduardo Levy Yeyati, Director of the Center for Financial Research, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Rubain Adoumtogue, Economist, Project Evaluator and Analyst, Ministry of Economy and Planning, N'Djamena, Chad

16:30-16:45 Coffee break

16:45-18:00 Comments, Q&A (including any pending from AM Panel)

Tuesday 23 February 2010

MORNING SESSION

10:00-13:00 Foreign Direct Investment for Productive Capacity-building

Introduction by Masataka Fujita, Chief, Investment Trends and Data Section, Investment Analysis Branch, Division on Investment and Enterprise

Key issues for discussion:

- How does FDI affect the productivity of domestic firms and what is the role of FDI policies in overall development strategies?
- What policies are needed to encourage linkages between foreign and domestic enterprises?
- What strategies may developing countries pursue for enhancing policy space both to pursue development objectives and to reap greater benefits from FDI in light of their international obligations?

Speakers: *V.N. Balasubramanyam, Professor, Department of Economics, Management School, Lancaster University, UK*

Stephen Gelb, Economics Department, University of Johannesburg & The EDGE Institute, Johannesburg, South Africa

Mario Cimoli, Director, Division of Production, Productivity and Management ECLAC, Santiago de Chile

Conrado Falco, Head, Information and Economic Studies, The Peruvian Agency of the Private Investment Promotion (PROINVERSION), Lima, Peru

11:30-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-13:00 Comments, Q&A

13:00-15:00 Lunch break

AFTERNOON SESSION

15:00-18:00 Official Development Assistance (ODA): securing growth towards 2015 and beyond

Introduction by Yuefen Li, Head, Debt and Development Finance Branch

Key issues for discussion:

- What are the main challenges for increasing the effectiveness of foreign aid? What are the responsibilities of donor countries in this regard? What about recipient countries?
- Are donors suffering from aid fatigue? If so, what should be done to combat this problem and increase the overall aid envelope in a period of recession in many donor countries?
- What are the pros and cons of aid targeted to specific projects vis a vis general budget support? Are some types of aid more appropriate for certain countries?
- What can be done to improve the predictability and stability of aid flows?

Speakers: *Arvind Subramanian, Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics, Washington D.C., USA*

George Mavrotas, Chief Economist, Global Development Network (GDN), New Delhi, India

Donald Ndwandwe, Principal Economist, Aid Coordination Management Section, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Mbabane, Swaziland

16:15-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-18:00 Comments, Q&A

18:00 Reception at Delegates Bar (3rd floor)

Wednesday 24 February 2010

MORNING SESSION

10:00-13:00 Building productive capacities in developing countries

Introduction by Detlef Kotte, Head, Macroeconomic and Development Policies Branch

Key issues for discussion:

- What is the role of the state in developing productive capacities?
- What are the resource requirements for developing economic infrastructure in LDCs and how can they be met?
- How can ODA be used to leverage development finance and knowledge aid?
- How may the composition of aid be shifted towards productive sectors and economic infrastructure without compromising progress on MDGs?

Speakers: *Erik Reinert, Chairman, The Other Canon Foundation, Oslo, Norway*

John Weeks, Professor Emeritus, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK

Ruhul Amin Sarker, Joint Secretary, Foreign Trade Agreement Wing (FTA), Ministry of Commerce, Dhaka, Bangladesh

11:30-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-13:00 Comments, Q&A

13:00-15:00 Lunch break

AFTERNOON SESSION

15:00-17:00 Special Roundtable: Follow up to UN Conferences on Financing for Development and the Global Financial and Economic Crisis

Videoconference briefing by Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Comments by Panelists, Q&A

CLOSING PLENARY

Item 4: Adoption of the outcome of the meeting

17:00-18:00 Chairman's summary

18:00 Closing of the Meeting