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Commodities, Governance and Economic Development under Globalization

Edited by George Mavrotas and Machiko Nissanke

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ISBN: 978-0-230-20334-1, ISBN10: 0-230-20334-5, 288 pages,

Professor Nissanke is Professor of Economics at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, UK and George Mavrotas is the Chief Economist of the Global Development Network (GDN).

The book is dedicated to the memory of Alfred Maizels (1917-2006), a distinguished British economist who worked at UNCTAD from 1964 to 1980. Maizels served as Deputy Director of the Commodities Division during the tenure of Raul Prebisch, UNCTAD's first Secretary-General. He later worked as Adviser on Economic Policy and Research and as Director of the Economic Policy Evaluation and Coordination Unit. A strong opponent of the neoliberal view that commodity price fluctuations are not damaging to developing countries, Maizels played a key role in the establishment of the Common Fund for Commodities, a pioneering intergovernmental financial institution. His landmark 1992 study, *Commodities in Crisis*, helped re-energize the commodities debate. In the aftermath of the recent cycle of commodity booms and busts, his ideas are finding new resonance today.



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Commodity Development Strategies in the Integrated Framework (UNDP Study)

ISBN: 978-92-1-126265-0

Primary commodities are a major source of income and employment for many developing countries. The Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries programme focuses on trade capacity development with sustainable development and poverty reduction as key objectives. This UNDP-supported study reviews the Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTISs) available as of October 2008, carried out under the Integrated Framework. Report findings include a call for stakeholders to develop an integrated commodity development strategy aimed at moving primary commodity producers up the value chain, so reversing the present trend of deindustrialisation in LDCs. Governments and the international community need to provide ongoing support for an enabling regulatory environment that encourages investment. The study identifies the significant gaps between different elements within commodity value chains and it calls for identification of policy solutions and required interventions for value addition of commodity-related outputs in LDCs.

