



**Trade and Development Board
54th Executive Session
28-29 November 2011
Palais des Nations, Salle 26**

PROGRAMME

10:00–13:00 Opening plenary

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Opening remarks

Mr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Presentation of the Least Developed Countries Report 2011: The Potential Role of South–South Cooperation for Inclusive and Sustainable Development

Mr. Taffere Tesfachew, Director, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes (ALDC), UNCTAD

Regional groups and individual delegation's statements

15:00–18:00 Expert Panel Session: South–South Cooperation and Regional Integration for Inclusive and Sustainable Development in LDCs

Introduction

Ms. Zeljka Kozul-Wright, Chief, LDC Section, Research and Policy Analysis Branch, ALDC, UNCTAD

Panelists:

Mr. Ikuo Kuroiwa

Director General, Development Studies Center, Institute of Developing Economics, Chiba, Japan

Mr. Kuroiwa will address the issues related to the regional integration and industrialization in LDCs in the case of Southeast Asia.

Mr. Vinaye Dey Ancharaz

Head, Department of Economics and Statistics, African Development Bank, Tunis-Belvédère, Tunisia

Mr. Ancharaz will discuss the experience of the African Development Bank in helping the developmental drive in African LDCs as well as the proposal for South-South financial cooperation put forward by the Report.

Ms. Stephany Griffith-Jones – via Video Conference
Financial Markets Programme Director, Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University, New York, United States

Ms. Griffith-Jones will discuss South-South financial cooperation and how foreign-exchange surpluses generated in the South could be used to enhance the financing for development of LDCs.

Followed by an interactive debate

The key issues slated for discussion by the panel include:

- Has the emergence of Southern "growth poles" changed the nature of LDCs' integration into the world economy, and what are the channels through which this process affects the development of LDCs' productive capacities?
- Can South-South cooperation help unlock the developmental drive in LDCs?
- The emergence of large foreign exchange reserves held by developing countries (many of them invested through SWFs) is changing the traditional scenario of international finance. Can such reserves help to finance development in LDCs?
- Could developmental regionalism be used to spur structural transformation and the development of productive capacities in LDCs?