



## BROCHURE

# GLOBAL COMMODITIES FORUM

18-19 March 2013

Recommitting to commodity sector development as  
an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction

Room XVIII - Palais des Nations - Geneva



Global Commodities Forum Partners are:





## **What is the Global Commodities Forum 2013?**

The Global Commodities Forum (GCF) is a free and neutral forum that debates developmental issues related to all commodities, hard and soft. The 2013 Forum focuses on issues such as energy markets, transparency in commodities markets, investment in agricultural markets, value chains, risk management, commodities data collection and dissemination. It also seeks to explore the link between commodity-based development and poverty reduction. This year, three keynote speakers from academia, the private sector, and civil society will set the stage for a lively discussion.

Another highlight of this year's Forum is the debate on how the energy sector is contributing to poverty reduction in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Three big energy companies will illustrate how projects are contributing towards the development of countries in which they operate. GDF Suez will present its projects in Indonesia and Bangladesh, while Gas Natural Fenosa will highlight its contribution to the electrification of rural areas in Argentina and Colombia. Finally, Total will underscore how its close partnership with governments and local actors, mainly non-governmental organizations (NGOs), is promoting local value addition in Pointe-Noire (Republic of the Congo); and helping to address environmental issues in Nigeria.

The Forum is unique and inclusive, bringing together participants from all links in the commodities value chain. It is the only event on commodities during which leading economists, executives from the private sector, high-ranking policymakers and activists from civil society interact freely. It is one of the most highly attended UNCTAD events, with about 300 participants annually.

A cocktail reception will offer participants an opportunity to network with a view to future collaboration.

## **Why should you attend the 2013 Global Commodities Forum?**

Most forums offer only the business side of commodities, but this one goes beyond, exploring the full impacts commodities could have on economic growth and poverty reduction. More specifically, GCF 2013:

- Covers all commodities, hard and soft;
- Is a unique, free, neutral and inclusive forum;
- Provides developmental perspectives to commodities production and marketing;
- Is a great opportunity to meet with high-ranking commodities specialists of various backgrounds, including, policymakers, academics, private-sector executives and actors from civil society.

## **What will you gain from attending the 2013 Global Commodities Forum?**

GCF 2013 is an opportunity to deepen your understanding of commodities markets and their development implications. By attending the Forum, you will gain a better understanding of:

- The importance of commodities in economic growth and development;
- The mechanisms of how commodities can work towards poverty reduction;
- Lessons learned from practical projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific in the area of commodities;
- Holistic analyses and contributions from academia, the private sector and civil society towards achieving economic growth and poverty reduction

## **Who should attend and our experience**

The Forum is designed to gather various stakeholders from along the commodities value chain. From our experience, they range from ministers or high-level representatives of governments to commodity professionals (corporate executives of banking and finance institutions), as well as leading academics and

## Global Commodities Forum 18-19 March 2013, Palais des Nations, Geneva



actors of civil society such as NGOs. Stakeholders attend the Forum in their personal capacities. Our keynote speakers this year include Professor Lipton from the University of Sussex, Ms. Ruth Rawling from Gargill and Ms. Dhano Sookoo from the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago.

Since its inception in 2010, the Forum has brought together around 1,000 speakers and participants to discuss major issues related to commodities and put forward pragmatic recommendations to address challenges in the commodities markets. The Forum has also become an integral part of UNCTAD's work on commodities. Based on the experience of the three previous forums, this year's Forum has adopted a new format with no parallel sessions. This format takes into account the need for all stakeholders to be more oriented towards a holistic approach and to avoid splitting the audience.

Another innovation this year is to rely on a steering committee for preparatory activities. The committee, comprising knowledgeable and experienced commodities experts from government, the private sector and international organizations, has been regularly consulted on the speakers, the funding and the content of the programme. UNCTAD would like to take this opportunity to thank individuals who participated in these meetings. One of their suggestions was to increase the role of moderators for all sessions. This would allow a change in the conventional lecture-type forums. This year's Forum will therefore benefit from the talent of journalists or specialists during all the sessions to help focus the discussions on critical issues.

### For information and registration:

UNCTAD  
Special Unit on Commodities  
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Palais des Nations  
Geneva

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## Programme<sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup> Speakers with a \* have not yet confirmed

Since 2002, commodities prices have staged the longest and most sustained rally in modern history, after three decades of stagnation at relatively low levels. According to N.V. Loayza and C. Raddatz (*Journal of Development Economics*, 2010) for commodity-dependent developing countries (CDDCs), export revenues increased along with prices, but this windfall was accompanied by less comparable rates of economic growth or poverty reduction.

For CDDCs, commodities sectors are often one of their most important sources of earnings and employment. Therefore, their inability to translate the recent commodities-led growth into generalized growth and poverty reduction calls into question their development model: what changes to their policies, institutions and infrastructure are necessary to link commodities revenues with the achievement of development outcomes, including the Millennium Development Goals?

**Monday, 18 March**  
**10 a.m – 1 p.m.**

**PLENARY THEME: Recommitting to commodity-sector development as an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction**

10–10.40 a.m.

WELCOMING REMARKS AND OPENING STATEMENT

Opening statement by:

- **Mr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General, UNCTAD**
- **Mr. Pascal Lamy, Director-General, World Trade Organization**
- **Mr. Jüri Seilenthal (Estonia), President, Trade and Development Board, UNCTAD**

### Keynote speakers:

**Moderator: Mr. Markus Mugglin, former journalist SRF**

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|---|--|
| • <b>Mr. Michael Lipton</b><br>Sussex University                          | Staples production: efficient subsistence smallholders are key to poverty reduction, development and trade |
| • <b>Ms. Ruth Rawling</b><br>Cargill                                      | Lessons from experience: unlocking farmers' potential, enabling entrepreneurs                              |
| • <b>Ms. Dhano Sookoo</b><br>Agricultural Society,<br>Trinidad and Tobago | Role of farmers' organizations in promoting commodity development and poverty reduction                    |

Moderated question-and-answer session with keynote speakers

1 – 3 p.m.

Lunch break



"The development of price-risk-management measures was also essential; governments could play an important role by implementing mechanisms that enable the private sector to use them."  
Mr. Guitchounts, economist at the International Cotton Advisory Committee, during GCF 2012.

## Monday, 18 March

3 – 4.30 p.m.

**PLENARY THEME: Recommitting to commodity-sector development as an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction (continued)**

**Risk management and resilience: methods and mechanisms for developing countries and small producers to prosper in spite of price volatility in the commodities markets**

**Moderator: Mr. Jean-François Lambert, Global Head of Commodity and Structured Trade Finance, HSBC Bank Plc**

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|---|--|
| • <b>Mr. Franck Galtier</b><br>Centre de coopération internationale<br>en recherche agronomique pour le<br>développement        | Managing commodity price instability. Why grains are different   |
| • <b>Dr. Sushil Mohan</b><br>School of Business<br>University of Dundee   | Delivering price-risk management services to commodity producers in developing countries: the case of coffee |
| • <b>Jean-François Casanova</b><br>Strategic Risk Management<br>Paris   | Beyond derivatives, How to better manage risk exposures in commodity dependent countries                     |
| • <b>Mr. Bruce Tozer</b><br>Common Fund for Commodities Expert,<br>Former Managing Director,<br>JP Morgan Environmental Markets | Outcomes of the Public–Private Initiative on Commodity Market Volatility                                     |



In developing countries, the renewed attention to agriculture in the public policy discourse has highlighted the dilapidated state of the institutions and infrastructure after two decades of relative neglect. Although the retreat of the State in the 1980s and 1990s from participation in the sector was meant to create incentives for private actors to drive development, a void remained.

## Monday, 18 March

4.30 – 6 p.m.

**PLENARY THEME: Recommitting to commodity sector development as an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction (continued)**

**Playing catch-up in the agricultural sector: investing in neglected infrastructure and services in the agricultural sector; filling the void left by the elimination of parastatal institutions**

**Moderator: Mr. Atsen Ahua, journalist**

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|--|---|
| • <b>Mr. Frank Deveer</b><br>Managing Director<br>Villa Development Company Limited Farms<br>of Old Domeabra | Playing catch-up in the agricultural sector: some practical problems from West Africa         |
| • <b>Mr. Ebenezer Tei Quartey</b><br>Director<br>Research Department of Ghana Cocoa Board                    | The role of parastatal institutions in the agricultural sector. the case of Ghana Cocoa Board |
| • <b>Dr. Bharat Kulkarni</b><br>Stalwart Management Consultancy Services<br>India                            | Attaining economic diversification and growth using commodity exchange in Malawi              |

6.30 – 8 p.m.

Cocktail reception offered by [to be confirmed]



**Ambassador Jones**, Deputy Executive Director at the International Energy Agency, during GCF 2012, affirmed that several policy responses existed to deal with the many drivers of volatile prices: measures to ensure more stable markets, including increasing the transparency of physical and futures markets, and reducing market distortions by means of price liberalization and a level investment playing field.

**Tuesday, 19 March**

**10 – 11.30 a.m.**

**BREAKOUT THEME: Information and transparency in the commodities sector**

**Challenges and solutions in collecting, analysing and disseminating market information and other commodities data**

**Moderator: Ms. Emma Farges, Journalist, Reuters**

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|--|---|
| • <b>Mr. Daniel Asare-Kyei</b><br>Agriculturist and geo-information specialist<br>ESOKO  | Mobile agriculture: providing tools and support for market information services and commodity price exchange    |
| • <b>Mr. David Hallam</b><br>Director, Trade and Markets Division<br>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations   | [Presentation title to be confirmed]  |
| • <b>Mr. Shiwei Xu</b><br>Agricultural Information Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences<br>China          | Enhancing agricultural market information: China's experience   |
| • <b>Ms. Armelle Gruere</b><br>Statistician, Consultant<br>International Cotton Advisory Committee<br>United States of America | Public-private partnerships in meeting the challenges of data collection and dissemination in the cotton sector |



According to a recent report by the World Bank, removing trade barriers, as well as enhancing market transparency and building resilience, can be used as possible entry points to an effective contribution of Africa to food self-sufficiency.

## Tuesday, 19 March

11.30 a.m.– 1 p.m.

### BREAKOUT THEME: Information and transparency in the commodities sector

#### Improving transparency in commodities markets and value chains

**Moderator: Ms. Emma Farges, Journalist, Reuters**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Stéphane. Graber</b> General Secretary Geneva Trading and Shipping Association Switzerland</li> </ul>	Commodity trading: value chain and specificities to consider in the transparency debate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Kristian Schach Moller</b> Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Africa (ACE)</li> </ul>	Malawi's experience: integrating warehouse receipts into exchange operations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Leonard Kalindekafe</b> Chair Intergovernmental Forum on Mining Canada</li> </ul>	Enhancing the capacity of good governance and sustainable development in the mining sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Dougou KEITA</b> Agriculture &amp; Agro-industry 2 Division African Development Bank Tunisia</li> </ul>	Agriculture Transformation Through Commodities Value Chain Development
1 – 3 p.m.	Lunch break





The 2013 Global Commodities Forum will focus on the extractive sector, with a special session on how the energy sector is contributing to poverty reduction in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Three big energy companies will illustrate with practical projects their efforts towards the development of countries in which they operate.

GDF Suez will present its projects in Bangladesh and Indonesia, while Gas Natural Fenosa will highlight its contribution in providing access to gas and electricity in low-income neighbourhoods in Latin America. Finally, Total will describe how its close partnership with local actors, including non-governmental organizations, is prompting local value addition in Pointe-Noire, the Congo, and helping address development issues of small and medium-sized enterprises in Nigeria.

**Tuesday, 19 March 3 – 5 p.m.**

**PLENARY THEME (continued): Recommitting to commodity-sector development as an engine of economic growth and poverty reduction**

**Moderator: Mr. Tom Miles, Thomson Reuters**

Panel discussion organized in collaboration with:

Economic Commission for Europe - Gas Centre

[www.gascentre.unece.org](http://www.gascentre.unece.org)

**Contribution of the energy sector in economic growth and development: Lessons from the experiences of Total, GDF Suez, Gas Natural Fenosa**



**Xavier Vives**

Director of Customer Service for Gas and Electricity Businesses in Latin America



**Bernard Saincy**

Vice-President for Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy and Sustainable Development Division

**Christian Van Dorpe**

Senior Vice-President, Sustainable Development Energy Europe



**Jean-Marc Fontaine**, Vice-President, Health Safety and Environment Total Exploration and Production

**Léa Judith Ndombi**, Head, Local Content Department, IT Engineer and Economist, Total E&P, Congo

**Alexis Béguin**, Deputy Executive Director, Institut européen de coopération et de développement

**Catherine Sanchez**

Local Content for the Moho Nord Project, Total E&P Congo

**5 – 5:30 p.m. Moderators' panel : summaries from moderators of key policy outcomes from their sessions**

**5.30 – 6 p.m. GCF closing session : Statement by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD**



## Speakers' biographies



### **Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General, UNCTAD**

Dr. Supachai, whose first four-year term as Secretary-General of UNCTAD began on 1 September 2005, was appointed to a second term by the General Assembly in July 2009. His second term will run through 31 August 2013. He previously served as Director-General of the World Trade Organization and as Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce. As Deputy Prime Minister, he was in charge of the country's economic and trade policymaking, signing the Uruguay Round Agreement in 1994 and contributing to the formulation of regional agreements. He received his Master's in econometrics and development planning and his Ph.D. in economic planning and development from Erasmus University in Rotterdam.



### **Pascal Lamy, Director-General, World Trade Organization**

Mr. Pascal Lamy has headed the World Trade Organization since September 2005. Mr. Lamy holds degrees from the Paris-based *École des hautes études commerciales*, the *Institut d'études politiques* and the *Ecole nationale d'administration*. He began his career in the French civil service at the *Inspection générale des finances* and at the Treasury. He then became an adviser to the then Finance Minister, Jacques Delors, and subsequently to Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy. In Brussels from 1985 to 1994, Mr. Lamy was Chief of Staff for the President of the European Commission, Jacques Delors, and his representative as Sherpa in the Group of Seven. In November 1994, he joined the team in charge of rescuing Credit Lyonnais, and later became CEO of the bank until its privatization in 1999. Between 1999 and 2004, he was Commissioner for Trade at the European Commission under Romano Prodi. After his stay in Brussels, Pascal Lamy spent a short sabbatical period as President of Notre Europe, a think tank working on European integration; as associate professor at the *Institut d'études politiques* in Paris and as adviser to Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, President of the European Socialist Party.



### **Jüri Seilenthal, President, Trade and Development Board, UNCTAD**

Mr. Seilenthal is currently Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva. He was appointed to Geneva in August 2009 and has held a number of elective or nominated positions in different bodies of the United Nations. He has served as President of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD since September 2012. From September 2011 to September 2012 he chaired the Coordination Committee of the World Intellectual Property Organization, and the Council for Trade in Goods of the World Trade Organization. From March 2011 to March 2012 He also served as facilitator for UNCTAD XIII in 2012 and was vice-president of CCW Protocol V. Formerly in the Estonian Foreign Service, he held the positions of Chef de Cabinet of Minister (2006–2009), Deputy Permanent Undersecretary for Administrative Affairs (1999–2002), Director of Personnel (1996–1997) and counsellor, personal assistant to the Secretary General (1995–1996). He was posted to Dublin as Estonia's first Chargé d'Affaires from 1997 to 1999 and as ambassador to Italy from 2002 to 2006. He has served as non-resident ambassador to Israel (1999-2005), Malta (2003-2006) and the Holy See (from 2007). Before joining the public service in 1995, he worked for a bank, was President of the Student Union of Tartu University and worked for a public opinion research company. He graduated from Tartu University cum laude in 1993.



### **Michael Lipton, Sussex University**

Michael Lipton is a development economist, specializing in poverty reduction as affected by agriculture, nutrition, and demography. He has worked mainly at Sussex University, where he is currently Research Professor, and the Institute of Development Studies. He has directed the Village Studies Programme; the Consumption and Nutrition Programme at the International Food Policy Research Institute; and, as Lead Scholar, the 2001 Rural Poverty Report of the International Fund for Agricultural Development. He has published *Why Poor People Stay Poor: urban bias and world development* (1977), *New Seeds and Poor People* (1989), *Land Reform in Developing Countries: property rights and property wrongs* (2009), other books, and many journal articles, and is currently working on a new book, *Malthus in Africa?* He is a D Litt, CMG, Fellow of the British Academy, and former Rockefeller Fellow at MIT and Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. In 2012 he was awarded (jointly with Peter Timmer) the Leontief Prize "for advancing the frontiers of economic thought". He has served on the Governing Bodies of the Institute of Development Studies and the Overseas Development Institute, and the Programme Advisory Committee of the CGIAR micronutrients programme, HarvestPlus.





**Ruth Rawling, Cargill**

Ms. Rawling was appointed Vice-President of Public Affairs for Cargill Europe in 1997, and her role has expanded to Vice-President of Corporate Affairs, Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA). In this capacity, she leads the team dealing with government relations, external policy issues, corporate responsibility and internal and external corporate communications in EMEA and is part of the global leadership team of Corporate Affairs in Cargill. Past memberships include Chair of the Food and Feed Committee in the Praesidium of Cocal, a European association representing grain and feed merchants. Prior to joining Cargill she held various posts in the Ministry of Agriculture in London before being appointed to Sir

Leon Brittan's cabinet when he was made European Commissioner and then taking up the post of First Secretary Agriculture at the Representation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the European Communities. Ms. Rawling is a graduate of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.



**Dhano Sookoo, Agricultural Society, Trinidad and Tobago**

Ms. Sookoo was elected President of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago, an office she has held for the past five years. She also serves on the Trinidad and Tobago Transport Board and on the Board of the Estate Management Business Development Company Limited, where she is the only woman. Notable achievements include pioneering the development of the export of fresh agricultural produce to Barbados for Trinidad and Tobago farmers and exporting the largest amount of

cargo from Trinidad and Tobago using D.H.L Airways. Under her leadership, the membership of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago grew from less than 400 individual members to over 6,000, and 68 affiliate bodies, bringing the farmers under one platform and one voice.



**Franck Galtier, Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement**

Mr. Galtier is an economist, who currently works in a French research institute called CIRAD. He is a specialist of agricultural markets in developing countries, with a special interest in cereal markets. In recent years he has worked intensively on food price instability, analysing its causes, its

consequences and the policies that can be implemented to manage it. He has lived in Mali, Benin and the Dominican Republic, and is now based in Montpellier, France.



**Sushil Mohan, Director of International Business Programme, University of Dundee School of Business**

Mr. Mohan is an applied economist with research interests in issues relating to the interaction between international trade and development. He has published several papers on market-based price-risk management solutions for agricultural commodity producers in developing countries and on the benefits for developing countries from reforming their agricultural trade. His Hobart Paper on fair trade presents an interesting perspective on socially responsible trading; it has been discussed on radio programmes and reviewed in newspapers, including the *Financial Times*, the *Independent* and the *Guardian*. Sushil is the Director of the International Business Programme in the University of Dundee's School of Business. He teaches courses on international trade, and finance and development. He has a number of years' professional experience in trade and development; this includes consulting work on developing coffee industry in the Republic of Vanuatu for the Commonwealth Secretariat. Further, he was director of Tea Promotion in London, adviser to the Commerce Minister for India on trade policy and managing director of a sugar corporation. He also served on the Boards of the International Tea Committee and the Tea Council of the United Kingdom.

and the *Guardian*. Sushil is the Director of the International Business Programme in the University of Dundee's School of Business. He teaches courses on international trade, and finance and development. He has a number of years' professional experience in trade and development; this includes consulting work on developing coffee industry in the Republic of Vanuatu for the Commonwealth Secretariat. Further, he was director of Tea Promotion in London, adviser to the Commerce Minister for India on trade policy and managing director of a sugar corporation. He also served on the Boards of the International Tea Committee and the Tea Council of the United Kingdom.



**Jean-François Casanova, Managing Partner, Strategic Risk Management, Paris**

HEC (MBA) et diplômé d'économie (Paris Sorbonne), Jean-François est l'associé de direction de SRM. Après 10 ans de négoce en matières premières, il est devenu trésorier de Renault Crédit International (1986-1991) puis membre du Comité exécutif de la Banque de l'Union européenne. En 1994, directeur général adjoint de Barclays Bank SA, il prend en charge sa restructuration, puis accepte la mission de réorganiser les opérations de trading de la Banca Della Svizzera Italiana à New York, Londres, Lugano et Milan après son acquisition par l'UBS. Au sein de l'équipe dirigeante de SRM, il fournit une connaissance minutieuse de la gestion du risque, pour les services financiers et les industries cycliques et développe aussi un intérêt particulier pour les aspects client et marketing.





**Bruce Tozer, Common Fund for Commodities, Expert, Former Managing Director at JP Morgan Environmental Markets**

Mr. Tozer is currently an independent consultant in agribusiness, agri commodities and environment-related issues working with De Novo Agricultura. He has over 27 years' experience in primary agriculture, financial services (agri investment, commodity finance and derivatives and environmental markets) and the food industry. He has held senior roles at JP Morgan, where he built the Environmental Markets business; Rabobank International and Credit Agricole, where his work covered multiple international



markets (Asia, Latin America, European Economic Community and Africa). He started his career in brand management at Danone in Paris. He was also a full-time farmer for 10 years and retains an interest in a family farming business in the United Kingdom.



**Frank Deveer, Managing Director, Villa Development Company Limited Farms of Old Domeabra**

Mr. Deveer is a businessman with interests in farming, procurement and logistics, plant and equipment hiring, and real estate. In general he seeks, and exploits, opportunities. He has been in farming since 1996. Some of the crops he has grown over the years are cashews, seeds (maize and cowpea), vegetables (tomatoes, peppers, aubergines, carrots, cabbage and okra), sweet potatoes and watermelons. He has won several agriculture awards at the national, regional and district levels, including Best National Pepper Farmer (2003); Greater Accra Regional Best Farmer – Exotic Vegetables (2003); Overall Best District Farmer, Old Domiabra, Ga District (2002); and

Best Agro-Forestry Farmer, Dominase, Gomoa District (1999). He is a former vice-president of the Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association of Ghana and a registered seed grower. He spent 17 years with the British American Tobacco Company, Ghana, as a procurement manager and served as the West African Representative on the Africa Purchasing Executive Committee of that company from 2000 to 2005. He is currently looking at investing in more intensive forms of vegetable farming (greenhouse), and investigating the potentials of crops such as sword bean (vegetable oil and animal feed), African spinach – amaranthus (protein powder) and sweet potatoes (starch and alcohol). Mr. Deveer has a Bachelor of Science degree (honors). He earned a degree in administration from the University of Ghana Business School, Accra, and a Master of Science in regional planning from the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana.



**Ebenezer Tei Quartey, Director of Research, Ghana Cocoa Board**

Mr. Quartey was appointed Director of the Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Ghana Cocoa Board in May 2012. Prior to this appointment, he was the substantive deputy director of the Department but seconded to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning from March 2009 to March 2011 as technical adviser to the Minister with responsibility for all cocoa-related issues. He worked with the Agricultural Desk of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning from 1988 to 1999, rising to the position of senior economics officer. He resigned in 1999 to join the Ghana Cocoa Board as office manager to the chief executive, from where he rose to his current position of director of



**GHANA COCOA BOARD**

the Research Monitoring and Evaluation Department. In 1980, Mr. Quartey graduated with a degree in development planning from the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana. Between 1991 and 1993, he earned a Master of Science in agricultural economics from the University of East Anglia in the United Kingdom. He has attended executive management development courses at Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business in the United States of America and the Maastricht School of Management in the Netherlands.



**Daniel Asare-Kyei, agronomist and geo-information science specialist, ESOKO**

Mr. Asare-Kyei is an agronomist, GIS specialist and farmer. He has several years' experience in international development. He has worked with three USAID-funded projects in Ghana, with ADRA-Ghana, a USAID/TIPCEE project implemented by Chemonics International and the ADVANCE program implemented by ACIDI/VOCA and TechnoServe Inc. While at ADRA; he supported 108 farmer-based organizations with a membership of 7,500 smallholder farmers. He was the team leader for the TIPCEE Northern Ghana program assisting 5,000 smallholder farmers to have market access. At ADVANCE, he led several GIS projects, introducing the first-ever spatial

data Infrastructure for agriculture in Ghana. Dan contributes immensely to Esoko Networks ongoing efforts to innovate mobile and electronic advisory and information services for farmers in Africa, promoting mobile agricultural solutions and developing e-extension programs for African farmers. Dan has a double Master's degree in geo-information science from the University of Twente in the Netherlands and a first-class Bachelor's in agriculture from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi Ghana. He is currently pursuing doctoral studies at the United Nations University in Bonn, Germany.





**Kristian Schach Møller, CEO, Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Africa**

Mr. Schach Møller manages the Agricultural Commodity Exchange (ACE) for Africa, based in Lilongwe Malawi. He is from Denmark, but has lived in Malawi since 2005 and has been with ACE since the first trade operations started in 2006. He has since been instrumental in setting up the ACE trading system, which includes the bid/offer trade platform, auction system and warehouse receipt system now operating in Malawi. He holds a Master of Law and a Master of International Business and is a certified arbitrator.



**David Hallam, Director, Trade and Markets Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**

Mr. Hallam is Director of the Trade and Markets Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome where he leads work on trade and development issues, and food and agricultural trade policy. He joined FAO in 1999. He was previously on the Faculty of the University of Reading specializing in the analysis of agricultural commodity markets and policy and was also director of the Centre for Agricultural Strategy at the University. He has written numerous books and articles on agricultural commodity markets, trade and

development and was editor of the *Journal of Agricultural Economics*. His recent work has focused on the analysis of food price volatility and on foreign direct investment in developing country agriculture. Before moving permanently to FAO, he was an international food markets and policy consultant for FAO, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Bank, governments and the private sector. He was educated at the universities of Oxford and Reading.



**Shiwei Xu, Agricultural Information Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China**

Professor Xu holds a doctorate degree in management from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences. He has long been engaged in the fields of agricultural information analysis and early warning, and agricultural information intelligence service technology. At present, he is director general of the Agricultural Information Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science, director of the main laboratories dealing with agricultural information service technology of the Ministry of Agriculture of PRC and with digital agricultural early-warning technology and system of CAAS, and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Agricultural Outlook*. He is also one of China's leading of agricultural researchers, a member of the expert group of the national 863 Programme of China, and a State Council special allowance expert. He has edited 10

monographs and published more than 80 papers in academic journals. Professor Xu is often invited to make presentations on agricultural information analysis and early warning at national and international conferences.

**Armelle Gruère, Statistician, International Cotton Advisory Committee**

Ms. Gruère has been a consultant for the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) from February 2013. She held the position of statistician, then senior market analyst at ICAC from August 2005 to January 2013. She holds a Master of Science in agriculture and resource economics from the University of California, Davis (2002), and a Bachelor of Science in agricultural science and management, from the Institut National Agronomique Paris-Grignon, (2000). She has worked as an associate economist in Berkeley, California for a private consulting firm conducting research into commodity-related issues. She was a postgraduate researcher at the University of California at Davis and has held other jobs in the private sector related to commodity forecasting, data discovery and management of large data sets.



**Stéphane Graber, Secrétaire général, Geneva Trading and Shipping Association**

M. Graber est secrétaire générale de la Geneva Trading and Shipping Association (GTSA), la plus importante association professionnelle du négoce des matières premières et de l'affrètement en Suisse, depuis octobre 2012. GTSA a pour mission de représenter les intérêts du secteur en Suisse au travers de l'organisation et de la promotion de formations académiques et professionnelles, de groupes de travail, de conférences publiques et de ses relations avec les partenaires économiques, les autorités et la société civile. Il est titulaire d'un doctorat en sciences économiques et sociales de l'Université de



Genève, section des Hautes Etudes Commerciales.

**Bharat Kulkarni, Stalwart Management Consultancy Services, India**

Over the past 10 years, Mr. Kulkarni has handled various assignments relating to operations, consulting, and research in different areas of commodity and financial market microstructures. He has worked for agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), IFPRI and exchanges such as MCX, ECX and AHCX. He worked for more than five years in commodity markets in Africa. In 2000, he started his career as a





commodity trader and in 2005 moved to join MCX. In 2008 he took up a job with UNDP and was tasked to advise in setting up the trading operations for the Ethiopia Commodity Exchange. In 2011, he ended his assignment with UNDP and began his own consulting firm, helping upcoming African exchanges. Presently he is working on assignment to set up a commodity exchange in Malawi. He is also involved in several other initiatives in Asia and Africa. He holds a PhD in commodity markets and has written two books, one on agri risk management, the other on commodity markets and derivatives.

**Leonard Kalindekafe, Chair, Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Canada**



Mr. Kalindekafe is principal secretary in the Ministry of Mining in Malawi. He is responsible for all technical and administrative work of the Ministry. He has worked in Saudi Arabia, Oman, Morocco, Equatorial Guinea, Nigeria and Mauritania on mineral law and policy, geological mapping, mineral exploration, oil and gas law and policy, nuclear energy policy and law. He is also president of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development-IGF. This is an officially recognized United Nations forum on mining issues with 43 member States, including

South Africa, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and Brazil. He holds a PhD in mineral law and policy from the University of Dundee, Scotland (2007).

**Dougou KEITA, Manager, Agriculture & Agro-industry Division, West Africa Region, African Development Bank, Tunisia**



Mr. KEITA is Manager of the Agriculture and Agro-industry Division of the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Tunis, where he works on agricultural commodities value chain development in West Africa region. He joined AfDB in 1997. Prior to joining the AfDB, he worked in Agricultural Extension (1978 to 1988), and Agricultural Research (1989 to 1997) with two centers of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (Africa Rice Center in Côte d'Ivoire and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Nigeria), the

South East Consortium for International Development in Washington DC, The Pragma Corporation in DRC, the Rural Economics Institute in Mali, the Southern Mali Rice Project, in Mali, and the Mopti Rice Project in Mali. For more than thirty years, Mr. KEITA worked with smallholders farmers, public and private sector actors, agricultural scientists, policy makers, experts of financial institutions and NGOs to find solutions to challenges of African farmers, most of whom are women and youth in enhancing their productivity, creating shared wealth and employment.



**Xavier VIVES, Director, Customer Service for Gas and Electricity Businesses in Latin America, Gas Natural Fenosa**



Mr. Vives received a degree in industrial engineering from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia and a Master's in Business Administration from ESADE Business School in Barcelona. From 1983 to 1989 he was chief of Industrial Waste Management for the Government of Catalonia. He has been with Gas Natural Fenosa since 1989 and has worked in many areas, including customer service, human resources, marketing, and new products and services development. From 1998 to 2003 he was director of Commercial Coordination and General Services at Gas Natural in Monterrey and

Mexico City. Currently he heads Gas Natural Fenosa's customer service for gas and electricity businesses in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Panama, Nicaragua and Mexico.



**Bernard Saincy, Vice-president for Corporate Social Responsibility, Strategy and Sustainable Development Division, GDF SUEZ**



Mr. Saincy is executive vice-president for corporate social responsibility at the Strategy and Sustainable Development Division of GDF SUEZ and vice-chairman of the solidarity company GDF SUEZ Rassembleurs d'Energies, which aims to support social entrepreneurs committed to access to sustainable energy for poor populations. He holds an MBA from the European School of Management (Paris). Mr. Saincy has managed several operational and functional activities within the GDF SUEZ group. He spent a

large part of his career in financial departments and in the research and innovation sector. He has written a number of books on corporate social responsibility.





**Christian Van Dorpe, Senior Vice-President, Sustainable Development, Energy Europe, GDF SUEZ**

Mr. Van Dorpe has been working in the energy sector for 30 years. He is senior vice-president in charge of Sustainable Development, Energy Europe. He held various managerial positions at GDF Suez and before the merger with GDF at Suez: director in charge of Sustainable Development and Environment; member of the Executive Committee of the Strategy Department of GDF Suez France; secretary-general, Business Development, and director, Institutional Relationships in South-East Europe of Electrabel SA; secretary general and member of the Executive Committee of Electrabel France; deputy general delegate, Northern and Central Europe of Suez; director, Corporate Human Resources Group; director, Gas Business Development Europe, Distrigaz SA;

director, Gas Projects, Distrigaz SA. He is also a member of the boards of directors in the financial sector and at the federation of chambers of commerce and industry of Belgium. He teaches at the Applied Sciences Faculty of the Université Libre de Bruxelles and at the School of Business Administration of Sorbonne University Paris IV.



**Jean-Marc FONTAINE, Vice-President of Health Safety and Environment, Sustainable Development Coordination, TOTAL**

Mr. Fontaine is vice-president of Health Safety and Environment for Total Exploration and Production, currently in charge of the coordination of sustainable development activities. He graduated from the School of Petroleum Engineering in Paris and he obtained a doctorate in geology from the University of Paris-Orsay. He began his career as a geologist in the TOTAL Group in 1982. He worked in the Exploration Department for more than 17 years, taking different positions in France, the Netherlands, Gabon and the United Kingdom. From 2000 to 2003, he was E&P

vice president for the Russian Federation-Romania-Italy and from 2003 to 2007 he served as general secretary of the TOTAL subsidiary in Angola.



**Catherine Sanchez, Head of Local Content for the Moho Nord Project, Total E&P Congo**

Ms. Sanchez graduated from the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Grenoble (France) and holds an MBA from Georgia Tech (United States). She also studied development economics (DEA, cum laude) at the Université de Dauphine in Paris.

Her academic research covered local content development in the extractive sector in Africa, preferential procurement in the South African mining sector (in the context of black economic empowerment) and capacity-building of SMEs in developing and emerging economies. She joined the Moho Nord Project team in

December 2011 to look after the local content of the project. Prior to that, her professional career developed between the industry and the oil sector and led her to work and live in a number of developing or emerging countries.



**Léa Judith NDOMBI, Head of the Local Content Department, IT engineer and economist, Total E&P Congo**

Ms. NDOMBI holds an engineering degree in computer science from the Institut Africain d'Informatique (Libreville-Gabon) and a Master's degree in economics (« DEA » cum laude, 1996) from Université Marien Ngouabi, Republic of the Congo with a focus on operational research and econometrics (specifically macroeconomics applied to business management). She started her professional career in the field of new information and communications technologies in Gabon, managing and evaluating IT projects, designing and developing dedicated applications for

business management and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Gabon (on the account of Internet Gabon). She joined Total E&P Congo in 2002 as the IT system administrator and became coordinator of the affiliate's finance and management information system. She is now the head of the Local Content Department of Total E&P Congo.





**Alexis Béguin, Deputy Executive Director, Institut européen de coopération et de développement**

Mr. Béguin, 36, is deputy executive director of the Institut européen de coopération et de développement (IECD). He graduated from HEC business school in 1999. He also studied history and geopolitics at La Sorbonne and at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, respectively. From 1999 to 2006, Mr. Béguin has occupied various management positions for Procter and Gamble in France, Switzerland and the Near East. In 2007, Alexis Béguin joined IECD as the Near East Delegate in Beirut, where he opened a representative office and developed new projects and local partnerships in Lebanon, Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Since July 2009, he has

served at IECD headquarters in Paris as director of operations with a strong focus on Africa, Madagascar and South-East Asia, maintaining supervision of Near East operations. He was recently appointed deputy executive director.



## Moderators



**Markus Mugglin, Former Journalist, Swiss National Public Radio**

Mr. Mugglin worked more than 20 years for Swiss National Public Radio (SRF). He was the editor of the news magazine *Echo der Zeit*, United Nations correspondent (Geneva and New York) and European Union correspondent in Brussels. He holds an economics degree from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. Currently he is working as freelance journalist, specializing in global economy.



**Atsen Ahua, Journalist**

Mr Ahua has wide and in-depth experience in mass media and management at the local, national, regional and international levels. He is a journalist, radio and TV broadcaster, manager and consultant. He has provided consultancy services to national, inter-governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations in the cultural and communication sectors. He graduated with a degree in mass communication from the University of Lagos Nigeria in 1976 and holds an MBA from the United States International University (1994). Mr. Ahua is currently editor of *Africa Link Magazine* and has a special interest in communication for development.



**Emma Farges, Journalist, Reuters**

Ms. Farge is an energy correspondent, specializing in oil products in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.



**Tom Miles, Chief correspondent, Reuters, Geneva bureau.**



**Jean-François Lambert, Managing Director, Global Head of Commodity and Structured Trade Finance, HSBC Holdings plc**

Mr. Lambert is the managing director and global head of Commodity and Structured Trade Finance for the HSBC Group. He runs the Bank's commodity and structured trade finance expansion operations, fulfilling enhanced customer requirements through full service along the entire supply chain. He is a seasoned international banker with over 25 years of recognized industry expertise in commodities and trade. His previous posts at HSBC include global head of Trade and Supply Chain Business Development and head of Eurozone Trade Services, with responsibility for leading and developing traditional trade services, supply chain and structured trade businesses. He has also held a number of senior positions in *Crédit Commercial de France*, including heading the short-term international activities of the Bank, serving as general manager of the Bank's Hong Kong (China) Branch and senior manager in Greece. He holds a Bachelor's degree in finance from the *Université Paris IX Dauphine* and is an active member of the Trade Export Panel of the World Trade Organization. He is also a reputed Basel II and III expert and key industry voice on the regulatory impact on trade.



# BACKGROUND NOTE

## INTRODUCTION

Since 2002, commodities prices have staged the longest and most sustained rally in modern history, after three decades of stagnation at relatively low levels.<sup>1</sup> For commodity-dependent developing countries (CDDCs),<sup>2</sup> export revenues increased along with prices, but this windfall was accompanied by less comparable rates of economic growth or poverty reduction (Loayza and Raddatz, 2010).

For CDDCs, commodities sectors are often one of their most important sources of earnings and employment. Therefore, their inability to translate the recent commodities-led growth into generalized growth and poverty reduction calls into question their development model: what changes to their policies, institutions and infrastructure are necessary to link commodities revenues with the achievement of development outcomes, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)?

The above question is similar to those raised by Prebisch and Singer's seminal works observing and predicting long-term deterioration in the terms of trade for developing countries. Nowadays, there appears to be a consensus on long decades of steady deflation of primary commodities prices relative to those of manufactured goods (e.g. Brown et al. 2008). However, the high commodity prices have led some observers to posit whether the reverse is now true (Farooki and Kaplinski, 2011). Other aspects of the "commodity problem" facing commodity-dependent developing countries, such as the "Dutch disease" and the "resource curse" concepts, have also come under greater scrutiny. For example, in the extractive sectors, the then prevailing common wisdom of their enclave nature has been challenged based on available best practices (Morris et al., 2012). One observation from this empirical research is the existence of fewer opportunities for forward linkages than for backward linkages. Therefore, the latter linkages could serve as powerful leverage tools for decent job creation and poverty reduction. Indeed, diversification is important – as are comprehensive policies that are not limited to a "ministry of agriculture" or "ministry of mines," but instead incorporate rural development, banking and credit, the environment etc. (UNDP, 2011). Equally important is an enabling global context in which commodity-producing countries could fulfill their development aspirations.

The 2013 Global Commodities Forum (GCF) provides participants with a platform to debate potential solutions to these challenges, at the vital intersection of commodities, economic growth and poverty reduction.

## AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BACK ON THE POLICY AGENDA

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, international policy orthodoxy encouraged developing countries to cut public budgets and privatize public assets, including the parastatal agricultural marketing boards that were seen to distort and hinder market-based opportunities for development (Poulton et al., 2006). During this so-called Washington Consensus era, prices for agricultural commodities stagnated at low levels, discouraging both public and private investment in the sector, and therefore relegating agriculture to the policy wilderness.

Beginning in the mid-2000s, and particularly after the food price crisis of 2007-8, agriculture returned to prominence in the public policy discourse. In developing countries, this renewed attention has highlighted the dilapidated state of the institutions and infrastructure after two decades of relative neglect. Although the retreat of the state in the 1980s and 1990s from participation in the sector was meant to create incentives for private actors to drive development, a void remained in the functions, such as regulation and promotion, which can only be effectively provided by a single legitimized authority. Similarly, the private sector underprovided public goods, such as infrastructure and extension services, which are difficult to deliver profitably.

As governments in developing countries continue to re-enter vacated policy roles in agriculture and rebuild neglected public goods, they do so amid a policy discourse on the subject that is both rich and challenging. Recent research has highlighted lessons from the outcomes of past policies, and points to the need for nuanced agricultural development policies.

At a macro level, agriculture is the ideal engine of both generalized growth and poverty reduction in low-income countries, most particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. As countries move into middle-income levels, other sectors tend to drive growth and agriculture remains as the most important activity for reducing rural poverty. Above middle-income levels, national economies employ agriculture as one of several components in a multi-sectoral growth and poverty reduction strategy (World Bank, 2007a).

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<sup>1</sup> Source: UNCTADStat

<sup>2</sup> A commodity-dependent developing country relies on commodity exports for 60% or more of its export earnings.

Just as research shows that macro agricultural development policy evolves as national income levels rise, so too does it show that governments must calibrate micro policies to a variety of sector-, firm- and household-level outcomes. The smallholder has rightly re-entered the agricultural policy discourse as key actor: after all, the small farming household is often involved both as a producer in growth strategies and as a subject of poverty reduction strategies. Indeed, among the poorest rural households, increased opportunities in agriculture represent the most poverty-reducing vector (Christiaensen et al., 2011; Lipton, 2006).

The rural-urban migration component evokes the dualistic growth model proposed by Lewis (1954), with agricultural productivity improvements freeing up rural inhabitants to work in higher-growth industries in the city. Indeed, the imperative remains for modern rural development models to increase agricultural productivity and provide more productive and remunerative activities for underemployed rural inhabitants (Loayza and Raddatz, 2010). But the modern development experience has balanced the Lewis growth model with poverty reduction imperatives, and thus has included rural-urban migration and increased agricultural productivity, not as two absolute points on a linear development path, but instead as two of the many elements in improving the livelihoods of rural households.

In the specific case of Africa, a recent report by the World Bank highlighted the importance of clear and predictable trade policies in achieving food security in order to contribute to the first goal of the MDGs on the continent. The report identifies removing trade barriers in general but also enhancing market transparency and building resilience as possible entry points to an effective contribution of the continent to its food self-sufficiency.

## **EXTRACTIVE SECTOR: BUILDING LINKAGES**

As stated above, although there is acknowledgement of fewer opportunities for forward linkages, backward linkages could serve as powerful leverage tools for the creation of decent jobs and therefore for poverty reduction. It should be noted that up until now, the political focus of most developing countries was outward-looking, which means seeking to respond to the needs of foreign investors and at the inducements offered by other States. Although it is recognized that extractive activities have intrinsic characteristics that result in weak linkages with the rest of the economy, recently there has been a shift in focus towards the services sector and affected communities (UNCTAD, 2012).

The so-called local content can be obtained through value addition in the host country economy either directly (employment, profits and taxes) or indirectly (purchase of goods and services). Under these circumstances, the model would suggest an arbitrator role for the State, negotiating between the private investor and the local community. Therefore, appropriate economic policies ensure that jobs are created and that they are durable enough to provide long-term development beyond the operational life of the extractive project. This requires not only natural resource management, but a wider economic management including planning capacity.

## **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

As an outcome of this meeting, we expect to arrive at clear cut multi-stakeholder policy consensus to address the following issues:

1. Risk management and resilience in low income commodity dependent economies; there are ongoing discussions to launch a study on risk management tools in cooperation with external partners such as the "Strategic Risk Management" Group based in Paris;
2. Developing infrastructure and services to support the agriculture sector;
3. Improving transparency in commodities markets and value chains at national and global levels;
4. Developing production linkages from the extractive sector with the objective of enhancing local employment, local content and local value addition.

## **CONCLUSION**

As shown above, discussions about commodities development policies quickly spill beyond the narrow policy files of agriculture, natural resources and trade. They sweep into areas such as taxation, rural development, human resources and the environment, among others. From this perspective, it is imperative that governments formulate their commodities development policies as part of a comprehensive growth and

poverty reduction strategy (World Bank, 2007b). Prerequisites to such holistic policy approaches are appropriate responses to the challenges of price volatility at the global level and weak infrastructure.

Moreover, in order to have a balanced structure of an integrated commodities sector, countries would need improved transparency in commodities markets in general, through effective data collection systems within an enabling global context. As a result, one would expect better analyses of the data that would lead to the formulation of the policies and their dissemination.

With a view to building consensus around the above-mentioned issues and others related to risk management and resilience, the 2013 Global Commodities Forum will provide participants with a platform to debate potential solutions to the identified challenges of linking commodities revenues to the achievement of development outcomes, including the MDGs, and, more specifically, the daunting challenge of poverty reduction.

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# Accreditation and Registration

## Member States

The attention of Governments of States Members of the Conference is drawn to rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, which provides that credentials of their representatives are to be issued by the Permanent Mission of the country concerned.

## All other participants (Observers)

All other participants (observers from specialized agencies and organizations institutionally linked to the United Nations; IGOs; NGOs and other organizations and civil society that have been invited by the Conference) should provide a letter of credentials duly signed by their respective heads of organizations.

## How to register for the Conference

States wishing to attend the Conference are requested to submit to the UNCTAD secretariat **by 8 March 2013** the credentials of their representatives and advisers (sample letter).

The specialized and related agencies, as well as interested organs of the United Nations and intergovernmental and directly concerned non-governmental organizations in consultative status with UNCTAD that wish to participate in the Conference as observers, are requested to inform the UNCTAD secretariat of the names of their representatives by the same date.

To expedite the process of registration and issuance of security badges, copies of the letter of credentials of representatives and the registration form for each participant should be faxed to the UNCTAD secretariat at the address below as early as possible and **before 8 March 2013**.

It is important to note that only registration forms corresponding to letters of credentials will be processed. The original of the letter of credentials should be presented during registration at the Conference in Geneva.

## Registration Form

The completed form should be faxed to the UNCTAD Secretariat. Please **BRING THE ORIGINAL** with you to Geneva. An additional form is required for spouses.

For further enquiries, please contact:

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