



**United Nations Conference  
Trade and Development**

**(UNCTAD)**



**Ministry of Commerce  
Royal Government of Cambodia**

**Capacity-building workshop on policies and strategies for sustainable graduation of Cambodia from LDC status: prospects, opportunities and challenges**

*(8- 10 October 2013, Ministry of Commerce, Phnom Penh, Cambodia)*

**Programme**

Venue: Bayon Room, First Floor, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia

## Programme

### A. Segment I: Senior Officials, policy advisors and experts

**Day 1: Tuesday, 8 October 2013**

08:30 - 9:00 Registration

**Opening Session:** Policies and strategies for sustainable graduation of Cambodia from LDCs category: joining the value chains, diversification, building productive capacities in Cambodia

*This session is to set a tone for the workshop and provide a direction for the subsequent discussions. It will particularly highlight the potential and opportunities existing in Cambodia and the challenges facing the country in achieving structural economic transformation, value addition and diversification objectives.*

9:00 - 9:10 Welcome statement: L.C.T. Tekreth Kamrang, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce

9:10 - 9:20 Opening statement: **Mr Tesfachew Taffere**, Director, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.

9:20 - 9:30 Remarks: **Mr Clovis Freire**, Economic Affairs Officer, Countries with Special Needs Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, UN-ESCAP

9:40 - 10:00 *Coffee break*

**Moderator:** *Mr. TAN Yuvaroath, Director of WTO Notifications and Legal Compliance Department*

**Item 1: Graduation from LDC status: background, performance, process, and implications for Cambodia**

*This session is intended to provide historical and conceptual background to LDC's category and graduation, including UN criteria and rules for graduation with policy implications to Cambodia*

10:30 - 10:50 Graduation criteria, graduation rule, relevant history: **Mr. Pierre Encontre**, Officer-in-Charge, Trade and Poverty Branch, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.

10:50 - 11:10 Joining the value chains, diversification and value addition: Challenges and opportunities with implications to Cambodia's eventual graduation: **Mr. Tesfachew Taffere**, Director, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.

11:10 - 11:30 Regional cooperation and the role of regional institutions in supporting Cambodia's eventual graduation: **Mr. Clovis Freire**, Economic Affairs Officer, Countries with Special Needs Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, UN-ESCAP

11:30 – 12:30 Interactive discussion

*(Lunch break)*

**Moderator:** *Mr. TAN Yuvaroath, Director of WTO Notifications and Legal Compliance Department*

**Item 2: Progress towards internationally agreed goals including graduation and policy options**

*This session is intended to provide insights into Cambodia's progress towards internationally agreed goals in comparison with selected other LDCs. It will also examine the experiences of the recently graduated countries together with policy lessons to be drawn from such experiences. Finally, the session looks into the technical assistance needs of Cambodia and what UNCTAD and other UN-system agencies can do in support of the country.*

- 14:30 - 14:50 The experience of recently graduated countries, and policy lessons for Cambodia: **Mr. Tesfachew Taffere**, Director, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.
- 14:50 - 15:10 How does Cambodia compare with other selected LDCs in meeting internationally agreed targets and goals? Challenges ahead and the way forward: **Mr. Mussie Delelegn**, Officer-in-Charge, SIDS and Status Issues Section, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.
- 15:10 – 15:30 **Coffee break**
- 15:30 - 16:10 UNCTAD's work in support of Cambodia's progress toward graduation from LDC status: **Mr. Pierre Encontre**, Officer-in-Charge, Trade and Poverty Branch, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.
- 16:10- 17: 00 Interactive discussion
- 17:10- 17:20 Summing-up by the moderator

**Day 2: Wednesday, 9 October 2013**

**Moderator:** *Mr. TAN Yuvaroath, Director of WTO Notifications and Legal Compliance Department*

**Item 3:** Challenges and priorities for Cambodia: policies and strategies to accelerate structural transformation, productive capacity-building and inclusive growth.

*This session will address policies and strategies required to achieve structural economic transformation, building productive capacities and export diversification to promote inclusive growth and development in Cambodia. It will examine the role of garments sector and the dangers of excessive dependence on low value added and low quality export items as well as the importance of market access for Cambodia's development. What should Cambodia do to get the most out of its garments sector and the current market access arrangements? What International support Measures are needed to build economic resilience of the country?*

9:00-9:20 The role of developmental state in accelerating structural economic transformation, productive capacity-building and inclusive growth in Cambodia: **Mr. Tesfachew Taffere**, Director, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.

9:20- 9:40 Policy lessons from successful experiences and best practices of other developing countries in making the most out of their garments sector: **Mr. Mussie Delelegn**, Officer-in-Charge, SIDS and Status Issues Section, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.

9:20 - 9:40 Interactive discussion

9:40 - 10:00 (*Coffee Break*)

10:00 - 10:20 Structural progresses in Cambodia: the challenges ahead. Focus on human capital development and resilience-building: **Pierre Encontre**, Officer-in-Charge, Trade and Poverty Branch, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.

10:20 - 11:30 Interactive discussion

11:30 - 12:00 Summing-up

Closing of segment I

*(Lunch break)*

**Moderator:** *Mr. TAN Yuvaroath, Director of WTO Notifications and Legal Compliance Department*

## B. Segment II: Senior Officials and policy makers

Policies and strategies for enhancing structural economic progress, ensuring broad-based and inclusive growth and building economic resilience: Key issues to be addressed by the Government of Cambodia in the years ahead.

14:00- 14: 45 Report of the senior officials, policy advisors and experts segment (Segment I): **Mr Tesfachew Taffere**, Director, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD

Technical advice to the Government of Cambodia on graduation and the way forward.

- 14:45- 15:00      **Mr Pierre Encontre**, Officer in Charge, Trade and Poverty Branch, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD
- 15:00- 15:15      **Mr Mussie Delelegn**, Officer-in-Charge, SIDS and Status Issues Section, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD.
- 15:15- 15: 30      **Mr Clovis Freire**, Economic Affairs Officer, Countries with Special Needs Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, UN-ESCAP
- 15:30- 16:00      Interactive discussion
- 16:00                Official closing of the training and capacity building workshop:  
L.C.T. Tekreth Kamrang, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce.

**Day 3: Thursday, 10 October 2013**

***Moderator: Mr. TAN Yuvaroath, Director of WTO Notifications and Legal Compliance Department***

8:30-12:00      Bilateral Discussion on Technical Assistance and Future Cooperation