



SECOND GENEVA DIALOGUE ON THE POST-2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA



The road from Bali

4 April 2014, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Room XXVI, E-Building, Palais des Nations, Geneva

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi became the seventh Secretary-General of UNCTAD on 1 September 2013. He has an extensive background as an elected official, academic and holder of high government office. Dr. Kituyi was elected to the Parliament of Kenya in 1992 and was twice re-elected. He was the Minister of Trade and Industry of Kenya from 2002 to 2007. During this period, Dr. Kituyi chaired and participated in a variety of ministerial-level initiatives, including for the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States and the 2005 Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization. Immediately prior to becoming Secretary-General, Dr. Kituyi was Chief Executive of the Kenya Institute of Governance and a Fellow of the Brookings Institution. From 2008 to 2012, Dr. Kituyi was a member of a team of experts advising the presidents of the nations of the East African Community on how to establish more effective regional economic links. From 2011 to 2012, he was a consultant for the African Union Commission, where he helped to develop the structure for a pan-African free trade area. Dr. Kituyi studied political science and international relations at the University of Nairobi and at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, receiving a BA in 1982. He went on to earn a Master of Philosophy and a PhD from the University of Bergen.





Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, Director-General, World Trade Organization

Mr. Azevêdo is the sixth Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO). His appointment took effect on 1 September 2013 for a four-year term. In 2001 he was named Head of the Dispute Settlement Unit of the Foreign Ministry of Brazil where he remained until 2005. During his tenure he acted as chief litigator in many disputes at the WTO and served on WTO dispute settlement panels. From 2006 to 2008 he was Vice-Minister for Economic and Technical Affairs at the Foreign Ministry in Brasilia. In that capacity he was Brazil's chief trade negotiator for the Doha Round and represented Brazil in MERCOSUR negotiations. In 2008 he was appointed Permanent Representative of Brazil to the WTO and other International Economic Organizations in Geneva. Ambassador Azevêdo holds degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Brasilia and in international relations from the Instituto Rio Branco, the graduate school of international relations and diplomacy run by the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Brazil. He joined the Brazilian Foreign Service in 1984.



Mr. Tofail Ahmed, Minister of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh

Mr. Tofail Ahmed, MP, is a senior Minister of the Government of Bangladesh holding the portfolio of the Ministry of Commerce. Earlier, he had served as Minister in the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Industries as well as Housing and Public Works. He has also served as Chair of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Industries in the Bangladesh National Parliament. Mr. Tofail Ahmed has played a pivotal role in furthering trade and development issues not only for Bangladesh but also for the least developed countries (LDCs) as a whole. During his tenure as Commerce and Industries Minister from 1996–2001, he led the LDC Group as coordinator and spokesperson in the first, second and third WTO Ministerial Meetings. He played a defining role in achieving the commitment of Duty Free Quota Free Market access of products from LDCs into the developed countries. He has also participated in a large number of Summits of the Non-Aligned Movement, the OIC, the Commonwealth and in several sessions of the United Nations General Assembly.



Ms. Sarah Cook, Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Ms. Sarah Cook took up the position of Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development in November 2009. She was previously a Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex and has also worked for the Ford Foundation in China. Sarah received her PhD in Public Policy from Harvard University and a Master of Science in Social Policy in Developing Countries from the London School of Economics. Her research has focused in particular on China's social and economic transformations, including work on labour markets and employment, gender, poverty and inequality and social welfare reforms. Recent projects have included a long-term study on social protection in Asia, research on migration and health in China and work on the implications of China's rise for international development. Current interests include new directions in social policy being taken by emerging and developing countries in the context of financial, social and environmental crisis.



Mr. Kwok Fook Seng, Ambassador of Singapore to the WTO

Mr. Kwok Fook Seng is Singapore's Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization in Geneva in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Since joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1995, Mr. Kwok has served in various portfolios related to South Asia and Latin America, the United Nations and Southeast Asia, including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). He was Special Assistant to the Foreign Minister in 2001. He was also Deputy High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur from 2006 to 2008. Mr. Kwok held the portfolio of Director-General of the ASEAN-Singapore National Secretariat from 2009 to 2010, overseeing Singapore's participation at ASEAN forums. He chaired the Special Session of the Committee on Trade and Development (a pillar of the trade negotiations under the Doha Round) from 2012 to 2014.



Ms. Sanya Reid Smith, Senior researcher and legal adviser, Third World Network

Ms. Sanya Reid Smith is a legal adviser and senior researcher with Third World Network in Switzerland. She analyses the effects of bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements on development. She has written a book on the implications of stronger intellectual property provisions in free trade agreements. Ms. Smith has science and law degrees and has studied economics. She has spoken at a number of United Nations, government and civil society meetings. Third World Network is a grouping of organizations and individuals involved in development issues. The international secretariat is based in Malaysia and it has an office in Geneva.



Ms. Alison Tate, Director, External Relations, International Trade Union Confederation

Ms Alison Tate is the Director of External Relations with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) based in Brussels, Belgium. Alison has worked in Australia, South-East Asia and the Pacific in trade union, human rights and community development. She has worked in policy roles relating to human and trade union rights, international economics, international trade and investment, sustainable development, migration, labour standards and corporate social responsibility. She has represented Australian trade unions at the International Labour Organization (ILO) and in other international and intergovernmental forums. She has served as a consultant/expert to a number of international development and human rights NGOs and with the Better Work program of the ILO and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), advising on trade union capacity-building and labour standards compliance.



Dr. Craig VanGrasstek, Harvard Kennedy School of Government

Dr. Craig VanGrasstek's areas of expertise include the history and structure of the international trading system, the trade policymaking process and the relationships between trade, power and development. Dr. VanGrasstek has been a trade consultant since 1982 and, since 1985, has headed Washington Trade Reports which specializes in monitoring and analysing current issues in trade policy. The firm's clients include corporations, government agencies and international organizations such as the WTO, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, UNCTAD and the World Bank. Dr. VanGrasstek has worked in over four dozen countries in five continents. He is the author of *The History and Future of the World Trade Organization (WTO, 2013)* as well as other books, chapters, journal articles and monographs.