



DTL/KTCD/MISC/2012/5
(12/225ams)

NOTIFICATION

Short courses on key issues on the international economic agenda for delegates from Permanent Missions in Geneva

Second semester 2012

The UNCTAD secretariat is pleased to announce another series of short courses on key international economic issues for delegates from Permanent Missions in Geneva for the second semester of 2012.

The aim of the courses is to give delegates from Permanent Missions an opportunity to become better acquainted with topical issues and developments on the international economic agenda as they are reflected in UNCTAD's work. More detailed information on the content of individual courses can be found in the attached programme.

Three courses are planned from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Palais des Nations on Tuesday, 9 October 2012 (room XXV); Friday, 9 November 2012 (room XXV); and Tuesday, 11 December 2012 (room XXVI).

The courses will be delivered in English, with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic, French and Spanish.

The secretariat invites Permanent Missions to nominate delegates who follow matters pertaining to UNCTAD or the World Trade Organization in Geneva to attend these courses. Course application can be done online at <http://p166.unctad.org/mod/page/view.php?id=1503>. Courses will begin promptly at 10 a.m. to allow sufficient time for debate after the presentations.

Any queries about the programme should be addressed to:

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Development Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics
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(signed)

Supachai Panitchpakdi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

3 September 2012

Short courses on key international economic issues

Second semester 2012

Programme

9 October 2012 (room XXV)

Post-crisis policy challenges in the world economy

This short session will examine the global economic crisis and its implications for development. It will look at the slowing down of global growth and also discuss the two-speed recovery that appears to reflect wide differences in domestic demand in both developing and developed markets. While strong wage growth and sustained public support have prolonged the recovery in investment and domestic demand in developing countries, the issue with most developed economies is that private demand is subdued due to stagnating wages and little improvement in employment. What lessons have been learned from the crisis, and have system reform and supportive pro-growth macroeconomic policies been given sufficient leverage to address these imbalances?

Delivered by: Division on Globalization and Development Strategies

9 November 2012 (room XXV)

Trade facilitation in the globalized economy: Challenges and opportunities

Since its inclusion in the Doha Round of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the traditionally technical issue of trade facilitation has gained prominence in international trade policy debates. It is now considered one of the few areas where WTO negotiations have been able to advance to the point of agreeing on a draft consolidated negotiating text. Trade facilitation is also increasingly included in regional trade agreements, through which governments commit to trade facilitation reforms independent of the conclusion of the WTO negotiations.

In this context, the long-standing debate about the benefits and challenges of trade facilitation, especially for the developing countries, is more important than ever, and this short course will focus on highlighting the role of trade facilitation in the current economic environment. The course will also discuss the challenges that developing countries may face in the implementation of an eventual trade facilitation agreement, and the role of the international community.

Key questions to consider:

- What are the implications of current trends in trade logistics for trade facilitation?
- Which trade facilitation measures are covered by regional and multilateral trade negotiations?
- What challenges do developing countries face in the implementation of the trade facilitation measures?
- Which national mechanisms are essential for a successful trade facilitation reform?
- What is the role of technical assistance and capacity-building programmes in trade facilitation?

Delivered by: Division on Technology and Logistics

11 December 2012 (room XXVI)

Global supply chains: Opportunities and challenges for developing countries

Global supply/value chains have flourished in recent years because lower information technology- and trading costs have facilitated production combining high technology with cheap labour. Today, a substantial share of the production processes of global supply chains takes place in developing countries. Policymakers in many developing countries are interested in linking their enterprises to global supply chains because of the benefits in terms of employment, improvement in technology and skills, productive capacity upgrading and export diversification. However, participation in global supply chains could sometimes mean developing country enterprises are stuck in low value-added segments of the chain. Developing countries would therefore need to identify and implement policies and measures to attract global supply chains, maximize the benefits and spillovers from participation in global supply chains by their enterprises and integrate such participation within their overall trade policies, including in terms of engaging in high value addition.

The course would cover three aspects of global supply chains and trade: (a) policy implications, (b) specific examples (i.e. from biodiversity-based sectors) on supporting the participation of developing countries in global supply chains and (c) some challenges for developing countries in regard to cross-border anticompetitive practices and global supply chains. It would be delivered by three speakers (to be designated) from the Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities on each aspect of the global supply chain.

Delivered by: Division on International Trade, and Commodities

Short courses on key international economic issues

Second semester 2012

REGISTRATION FORM
(Please print in block letters or type.)

Surname: _____ First name: _____

Middle name: _____ Gender (F/M): _____

Job title: _____

Permanent Mission (country): _____

Postal address: _____

Tel.: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

(A reminder will be sent to you a few days before the course begins.)

I would like to register for the following courses (please tick those that interest you):

- 9 October 2012 – Post-crisis policy challenges in the world economy
- 9 November 2012 – Trade facilitation in the globalized economy: Challenges and opportunities
- 11 December 2012 – Global supply chains: Opportunities and challenges for developing countries

Registration forms should be sent to:

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