Trade, Multilateral Cooperation and Sustainable Development

By Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Director
Division on International Trade and Commodities
International trade is in a fragile state
Trade growth: An erratic performance

Annual average growth rate

-25 -20 -15 -10 -5 0 5 10 15 20 25

South-South trade: An area of opportunity

South-south trade as % of global trade
Trade tensions compromising Trade and also Development
INCREASE OF TARIFFS ON EXPORTS

Source: UNCTAD estimates
Some countries continue facing specific challenges
Two thirds of developing countries are Commodity dependent.
THE TRADE CHALLENGE OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
Within country inequality is rising
82% of wealth generated in 2017 went to the richest 1%
... the poorest half of the world, 3.7 billion, saw NO INCREASE
The Multilateral Trading System is being stretched
A challenge to multilateral cooperation anywhere...

... is a challenge to the SDGs everywhere
But despite the challenges, many countries look for more, not less, trade cooperation.
We must:
Adapt
Protect
Strengthen

the Multilateral Trading System to
achieve the SDGs
Making trade work for development

- Making trade more inclusive
- WTO reform
- Economic Diversification
- Building productive capacity
- Strengthening south-south trade
Thank you