

ROOMS XVIII and XXVI
PALAIS DES NATIONS – GENEVA

23-24

JANUARY 2012
10.00-18.00

GLOBAL COMMODITIES FORUM

**HARNESSING DEVELOPMENT
GAINS FROM COMMODITIES
PRODUCTION AND TRADE**



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Mr Kris Terauds - kris.terauds@unctad.org - Tel.: 022 917 5786

Ms Danièle Boglio - daniele.boglio@unctad.org - Tel.: 022 917 6286



HARNESSING DEVELOPMENT GAINS FROM COMMODITIES PRODUCTION AND TRADE

Many developing countries are heavily dependent on exports of commodities. Throughout most of the 1980s and 1990s, prices for these goods remained low, but since 2002 they have risen considerably. Despite the resulting increase in the value of their chief exports, most commodity-dependent developing countries (CDDCs) have been unable to convert the additional revenue into a diversification of their export industries. Since 2002, the number of countries whose commodity exports represent more than 60% of merchandise exports has risen from 85 to 91.

Their persistent dependence on commodities exports has been particularly poignant for CDDCs as the fallout from the 2008 global economic crisis continues. Many of these nations are dependent on imports of food, oil, and manufactured goods. Poverty and food security are often pressing concerns. As the global crisis has squeezed government and household budgets, CDDCs find themselves less able to confront these major challenges. It is vital for them to realize greater lasting value from their commodities exports.

Over the past year, the pressure on CDDCs has increased with the worsening of the sovereign debt crisis, which threatens to reduce the amount of credit available to commodities producers and to increase the amount of speculative capital that flows from financial markets into commodities in search of profitable investments.

Continued price volatility in commodities markets has prompted high-level collaborative international action, including most recently by the UN High Level Task Force (UN HLTF) and the G-20 grouping of major economies.

This year's UNCTAD Global Commodities Forum (GCF) will focus on what CDDCs can do to reverse the pattern. The event's theme is "Harnessing development gains from commodities production and trade." The Forum will attract government ministers, business leaders in the field of commodities, academics, development economists, and others.

The 2012 GCF proposes a varied programme that challenges participants to identify ways to increase the value CDDCs earn from their natural resources and to redress imbalances in commodities markets. The Forum will emphasize project implementation: the programme includes sessions devoted to case studies of successful commodity-related development projects, as well sessions aimed at identifying new projects and possibilities.

Established in 1964, UNCTAD promotes the development-friendly integration of developing countries into the world economy. UNCTAD is the UN institution mandated to deal with commodity-related trade and development issues, including finance, debt, investment, and logistics. It fulfils its mandate by: organizing intergovernmental deliberations aimed at consensus building; undertaking research and analysis to inform debate; and providing technical assistance tailored to the needs of developing countries.

In response to recent complex challenges affecting commodities markets, UNCTAD organized the first Global Commodities Forum in 2009. The Forum gathers high-level representatives from all sectors of the commodities economy. It aims to generate new ideas for ensuring that the production and trade of commodities lead to sustainable economic growth and development.



- DATES:** 23-24 January 2012
- VENUE:** United Nations, Palais des Nations, E-Building, Geneva, Switzerland
- OBJECTIVE:** The GCF is a major multi-stakeholder meeting to discuss and identify solutions to problems that cut across individual commodity sectors, problems such as: the financialization of commodities markets; expanding producers' access to credit and markets; and increasing value addition.
- SESSIONS AND THEMES:** The third GCF is divided into two parallel streams: **the Plenary A** stream deals with the Forum's overall theme of harnessing development gains from commodities production and trade; and the **Parallel B** stream examines the development of supply markets in commodity-dependent countries.
- Plenary A:** Recent developments in international commodities trade, their impacts and implications (Joint A1/B1); The sovereign debt crisis and its impacts on commodities production and trade (A2); Trade-related financial innovations developed in response to the post-2008 credit crunch (A3); Key challenges facing commodity-dependent developing countries (A4/5); Identifying emerging opportunities in the changing global energy mix (A6); Practical examples of supply chain development in developing countries (A7).
- Parallel B:** Recent developments in international commodities trade, their impacts and implications (Joint A1/B1); In practice: Financing commodity-based development in developing countries (B2/3); Expanding access to markets and trade-enabling tools (B4/5); Identifying potential opportunities for collaboration (B6/7).
- PARTICIPANTS:** Ministers and high-level government officials in charge of mineral resources and agriculture; corporate leaders involved in the production, trading, financing and distribution of hydrocarbons, metals and food; representatives from international organizations; non-governmental organizations; and authoritative experts and academics specializing in commodities issues.
- CONFERENCE ROOMS:** Conference rooms XVIII and XXVI, E-Building, Palais des Nations
- INTERPRETATION:** The Plenary session (room XVIII) will be interpreted simultaneously in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The Parallel session (room XXVI) will be interpreted simultaneously in English and French.
- DOCUMENTATION:** The background papers and written presentations will be presented in their original form and language. Electronic copies will be made available on the event website.
- PROGRAMME & CONTENTS:** **Samuel Gayi**, Head, Special Unit on Commodities, samuel.gayi@unctad.org
Kris Terauds, kris.terauds@unctad.org, tel: +41.22.917.5786
- LOGISTICS:** **Catherine Katongola-Lindelof**, catherine.katongola@unctad.org
Danièle Boglio, daniele.boglio@unctad.org
tel: +41.22.917.6286/1648/5853, fax: +41.22.917.0509
- REGISTRATION:** <http://www.unctad.info/en/Global-Commodities-Forum-2012>, gcf@unctad.org



HARNESSING DEVELOPMENT GAINS FROM COMMODITIES PRODUCTION AND TRADE

10:00–10:30

OPENING INAUGURAL PLENARY

Chair's opening remarks: **H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Al-Adoofi**, Vice-President, Trade and Development Board, UNCTAD

Opening statement: **Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi**, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

10:30–11:30

STATEMENTS FROM INAUGURAL PANEL

- **Mr. Clem Boonekamp**, Director, Agriculture and Commodities Division, WTO
- **Mr. David Hallam**, Director, Trade and Markets Division, FAO

11:30–13:00

JOINT PLENARY-PARALLEL SESSION A1/B1

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES TRADE, THEIR IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

Moderator:

Mr. Taffere Tesfachew, Director, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD

Speakers:

- **Ambassador Richard Jones**, Deputy Executive Director, IEA
- **Mr. David Hallam**, Director, Trade and Markets Division, FAO
- **Mr. Urs Rybi**, Commodities Expert, Déclaration de Berne
- **Mr. Gbolahan Elias (SAN)**, G Elias & Co (Solicitors and Advocates), Nigeria

13:00–15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00–16:30

PLENARY SESSION A2

THE SOVEREIGN DEBT CRISIS AND ITS IMPACTS ON COMMODITIES PRODUCTION AND TRADE

Moderator:

- **Ms. Myret Zaki**, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Bilan Magazine

Speakers:

- **Mr. Marc Auboin**, Counsellor, Economics Research and Statistics Division, WTO
- **Mr. Sébastien Max**, Sales, Diapason Commodities
- **Mr. Eric Schreiber**, Head of Commodities, Union Bancaire Privée

16:30 - 18:00

PLENARY SESSION A3

TRADE-RELATED FINANCIAL RESPONSES TO THE POST-2008 CREDIT CRUNCH

Moderator:

- **Mr. Richard Kozul-Wright**, Director, Unit on Economic Cooperation and Integration Among Developing Countries, UNCTAD

Speakers:

- **Mr. Ke Tang**, Associate Professor, Renmin University of China
- **Mr. Samir Zreikat**, Director, Dealigents Sarl
- **Mr. Emmanuel Fragnière**, Professor, Geneva Business School

18:30–20:00

Private reception at Delegates' Restaurant (Restaurant des délégués), Building A, 8th floor
Organized and sponsored by Brahms Consulting Group and Dukkar SA



10:00–13:00

PLENARY SESSION A4/5

KEY CHALLENGES FACING COMMODITY-DEPENDENT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Moderator:

- **Mr. Kwabena Baah-Duodu**, Chief a.i., Office of the Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Speakers:

- **Mr. Christian Häberli**, Senior Research Fellow, World Trade Institute
- **Mr. Guillaume Leherpeur**, Independent Sugar Trader
- **Mr. Franck Galtier**, Senior Economist, CIRAD
- **Mr. Andrei Guitchounts**, Economist, ICAC
- **Mr. Guillaume Loonis-Quelen**, Partner, UMMU
- **Mr. Joel Hanley**, Managing Editor, EMEA Crude Oil & Dirty Products, Platts

13:00–15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00–16:30

JOINT PLENARY-PARALLEL SESSION A6/B6

IDENTIFYING EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CHANGING GLOBAL ENERGY MIX

Moderator:

- **Mr. Rouben Indjikian**, Former Chief, Commodities Policy Implementation and Outreach Section, Special Unit on Commodities, UNCTAD

Speakers:

- **Mr. Nabil Alami**, LPG Trader, Dukkar SA
- **Mr. Tuna Oez**, Independent Gas Trader
- **Ms. Masuma Zareen Farooki**, Visiting Research Fellow, The Open University (UK)

16:30–17:30

JOINT PLENARY-PARALLEL SESSION A7/B7

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF HARNESSING GAINS FROM COMMODITY VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

Moderator:

- **Mr. Petko Draganov**, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Speakers:

- **Mr. Kassaye Mekuria**, Director, Ethiopian Textile and Garment Manufacturers' Association (ETGAMA)
- **Ms. Annick Gouba**, Consultant, Audit Control and Expertise Global (ACE)
- **Mr. Daouda Fall**, CEO, Brahms Consulting Company

17:30–18:00

GCF CLOSING SESSION



DEVELOPING SUPPLY MARKETS IN COMMODITY-DEPENDENT COUNTRIES

11:30–13:00

**JOINT PLENARY-PARALLEL SESSION A1/B1 (ROOM XVIII - SEE ABOVE)
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES TRADE, THEIR
IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS**

13:00–15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00 - 18:00

**PARALLEL SESSION B2/3
IN PRACTICE: FINANCING COMMODITY-BASED DEVELOPMENT IN COMMODITY-
DEPENDENT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

Moderator:

- **Mr. John MacNamara**, Managing Director, Deutsche Bank

Speakers:

- **Mr. B.O. Oramah**, Executive Vice-President, Afrexim Bank
- **Mr. Jean-François Lambert**, Global Head of Structured Finance, HSBC
- **Mr. Gilles Thieffry**, Solicitor, GT Law
- **Ms. Veronika Koroleva**, SNR Denton UK LLP
- **Mr. Matthew Parish**, Partner, Holman Fenwick Willan LLP
- **Mr. Tom Lines**, Consultant

18:30–20:00

Private reception at Delegates' Restaurant (Restaurant des délégués), Building A, 8th floor
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10:00–13:00

PARALLEL SESSION B4/5

EXPANDING ACCESS TO MARKETS AND TRADE-ENABLING TOOLS

Moderator:

- **Mr. Robert Piller**, Principal, Aupres Consult

Speakers:

- **Mr. Jean-François Casanova**, Managing Partner, Strategic Risk Management
- **Mr. Bogdan Rascanu**, Head of Business Development, Audit Control and Expertise Global (ACE)
- **Mr. Bharat Kulkarni**, Independent Consultant
- **Mr. Marc Lapointe**, Regional Vice-President for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, Certispec
- **Stéphane Koch**, Business Intelligence Expert
- **Mr. Matthieu Delorme**, CEO, Cotecna

13:00–15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00–16:30

JOINT PLENARY-PARALLEL SESSION A6/B6 (ROOM XVIII - SEE ABOVE)

**IDENTIFYING EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CHANGING
GLOBAL ENERGY MIX**

16:30–17:00

JOINT PLENARY-PARALLEL SESSION A7/B7 (ROOM XVIII - SEE ABOVE)

**PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF HARNESSING GAINS FROM COMMODITY VALUE
CHAIN DEVELOPMENT**

END OF PARALLEL STREAM B