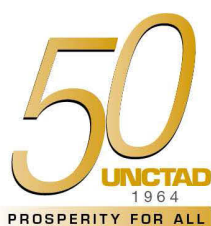


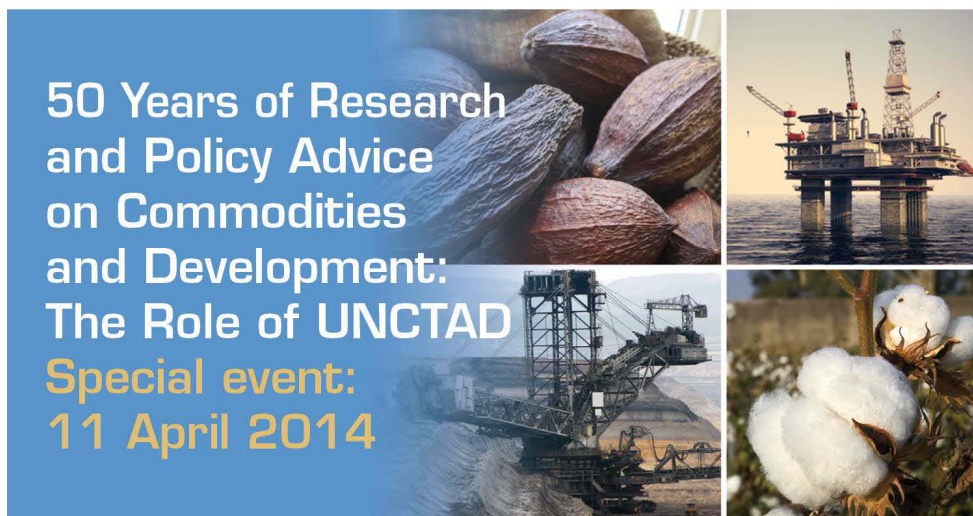


PROGRAMME



50 Years of Research and Policy Advice on Commodities and Development: The Role of UNCTAD

Special event:
11 April 2014



10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Room XXVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Special event to celebrate UNCTAD's 50th anniversary Jointly organized by UNCTAD, FAO and CFC

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) will be fifty years old in June 2014. Since its first conference in Geneva in 1964, UNCTAD has played an important role in promoting developing countries' equitable participation in the world economy. To celebrate this important moment in UNCTAD's history, UNCTAD Special Unit on Commodities, in partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), will organize a special event entitled "50 Years of Research and Policy Advice on Commodities and Development: The Role of UNCTAD". The objective of this event is twofold: (1) to discuss UNCTAD's contribution to the global debate on commodities and development over the past 50 years; (2) to generate ideas that would further enhance UNCTAD's role in assisting commodity-dependent developing countries to address the perennial and new challenges facing commodity-based economies. The target audience of this event includes the representatives of Governments, development partners, United Nations institutions, private sector stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, academia, as well as students interested in commodity and development issues.

Welcoming remarks

Mr. Samuel K. Gayi, Head, Special Unit on Commodities, UNCTAD

His Excellency Mr. Remigi Winzap, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the WTO and EFTA in Geneva

Lead discussants

Mr. Mehmet Arda, Former Head of the Commodity Branch in UNCTAD

Mr. Rolf Boehnke, Former Managing Director of the Common Fund for Commodities

Ms. Paola Fortucci, Former Director of the Commodity and Trade Division in FAO

Moderator

Mr. Thomas Lines, International Consultant

Report Writer

Mr. Atsen Ahua, Journalist, Expert in Communication for Development

Bios



Mr. Mehmet Arda, Former Head, Commodity Branch in UNCTAD

Mehmet Arda is adjunct professor at Koc University, Istanbul, and is also active at the Centre for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies, the Global Relations Forum and the Economic Research Centre of Galatasaray University where he was a professor until his retirement in mid-2013. Before returning to Turkey in 2007, he was Head of the Commodities Branch of UNCTAD, where he worked for 25 years. He has been an occasional advisor to the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency and consultant to the United Nations. He is one of the founders of SenDeGel, a Turkish civil society organization assisting least developed countries. He holds a BA from Dartmouth College, and a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. His interest in commodity issues continues, and his current research focuses on the governance of globalization and the process of development in a globalized world; multilateral and regional trade agreements; least developed countries; South-South economic relations; and international value chains.



Mr. Rolf Boehnke, Former Managing Director, Common Fund for Commodities

During the meetings and negotiations of UNCTAD's Integrated Programme for Commodities in the 1970s, Mr. Boehnke was an active participant as German delegate, working with the German Federal Ministry of Economics. He was assigned as diplomat to the German Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva and New York and the German Embassy in London. He was elected Secretary General of the International Lead and Zinc Study Group in 1984, which formed the model for similar study groups established under the auspices of UNCTAD. In 1996, he was elected Managing Director and Chair of the Executive Board of the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), where he served the maximum two terms until 2004. He was responsible for the first and second Five-Year Action Plans of CFC, extended the scope of the CFC-financed projects and strived to make the workings of the organization more efficient. In recent years he has been engaged as project leader, team leader and consultant in the Balkans, the Caucasus, the Middle East, Asia and South America. He teaches theories of international economics at the European Business School in Mainz, Germany. He obtained a PhD in economics and an MA in economics and law from Freie Universität Berlin, and a master's in public administration from Harvard University.



Ms. Paola Fortucci, Former Director, Commodity and Trade Division in FAO

Paola Fortucci spent most of her professional life working on agricultural commodities. Her experience spans many of the post-World War II developments in thinking about how to deal with the problems affecting markets and their impacts on producing and consuming countries.

Following studies in international relations at George Washington University and at the American University of Washington, D.C., and at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies of Bologna, she joined the Commodities Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome in the mid-1960s. Over the years she gradually occupied positions of increasing responsibility, and in 2000 she was appointed as Director of the Commodities and Trade Division.

Following retirement from FAO, Ms. Fortucci has continued to maintain an active interest in commodities. She has undertaken missions to Africa and to Haiti and is President of a non-profit company, Federal Solidarity Organization, whose mission is to support efforts to enhance the performance of the commodity sectors of developing countries.



Mr. Thomas Lines, International Consultant

Mr. Thomas Lines has followed the commodity markets for more than 35 years, first as a journalist, then as a lecturer at Edinburgh University, and more recently as a consultant for the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. Since 2008, he has examined the relationship between world food prices and food security in particular. His book, *Making Poverty: A History*, was published by Zed Books in 2008.



Mr. Atsen Ahua, Journalist, Expert in Economic Development

Mr. Atsen Jonathan Ahua has wide and in-depth experience in mass media and management at local, national, regional and international levels. He is a journalist, radio and TV broadcaster, manager and consultant. He has provided consultancy services to national, inter-governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations in the cultural and communication sectors. He graduated in mass communication from the University of Lagos 1976 and holds an MBA of the United States International University obtained in 1994. Mr. Ahua is currently editor of *Africa Link* magazine and has a special interest in communication for development.

Registration

All participants (*holding a United Nations pass or not*) should register online before 9 April 2014.

Online registration and additional information are available at:
<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=514>.

Information for travellers, please see: www.unctad.org/gcf2014.

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