



# Realizing Trade's Potential to Contribute to Sustainable Development

Launch of UNCTAD report

11h30-13h00, 15 April 2016

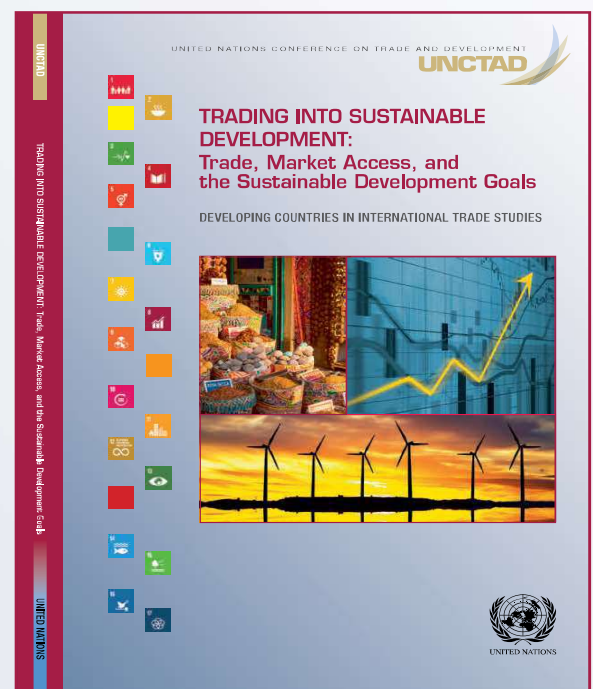
Room XXIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

In the landscape of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), trade is recognized as an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction (Paragraph 67, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development). To realize trade's potential to contribute to the promotion of sustainable development, countries are encouraged to integrate sustainable development into trade policy at all levels (Paragraph 82, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda). But what does it entail to policymakers at the national level?

UNCTAD's report "Trading into Sustainable Development" discusses how market access conditions in international trade, such as customs tariffs, non-tariff measures and connectivity to markets, interact with economic, social and environmental determinants of sustainable development. The objective of the report is to clarify various ways to increase the effectiveness of trade as a means to achieve the SDGs.

This briefing will present the key findings from the report, followed by interactive discussions led by two panellists on the following questions:

- How do we assess complex linkages between trade and the determinants of "inclusive" economic growth and sustainable development, such as gender equality, food security, public health and sustainable technology?
- Trade is growing at a much slower pace than what the world experienced in the decades up to 2008/2009. In the face of possible structural shifts in trading environment, what should be the focus of the public-sector policymakers in ensuring trade's contribution to inclusive economic growth and sustainable development?



The advance copy of the report is available: <http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=1474>

## PROGRAM

### Opening remarks

Mr. Joakim Reiter, Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD

### Presentation of the report

Mr. Guillermo Valles, Director, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities

### Panel Discussion

#### Panellists:

HE Mr. Jonathan Fried, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada

Ms. Marion Jansen, Chief Economist, International Trade Centre