

**Trade and Development Board
Sixty-sixth executive session
5–7 February 2018**

**Programme of Work
Monday, 5 February 2018
Room XVII**

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Opening plenary

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
(TD/B/EX(66)/1)

Opening remarks

- Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Item 2 *The Least Developed Countries Report 2017: Transformational Energy Access* (UNCTAD/LDC/2017)

- Mr. Paul Akiwumi, Director ALDC, UNCTAD
- Mr. Rolf Traeger, Chief, LDC Section, UNCTAD

Followed by

Statements by regional groups and individual delegations

and

Launch of the new UNCTAD publication: *Selected Sustainable Development Trends in the Least Developed Countries – 2018*

1.15 p.m.

Lunchtime event (room XXVII)

Launch of an ECA report
Assessing Regional Integration in Africa VIII – Bringing the Continental Free Trade Area About.

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3–6 p.m.

Plenary

Item 2 (cont'd)

Panel discussion: Energy for structural transformation and sustainable development in the least developed countries

Introductory remarks by the UNCTAD secretariat

Panellists

- Mr. Youba Sokona, Vice-Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and Special Advisor for Sustainable Development, South Centre
- Mr. David Luke, Coordinator, African Trade Policy Centre, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- Mr. Scott Foster, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Ms. Dunja Krause, Research Officer, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

Followed by interactive discussions

Background

Sustainable, affordable and clean energy plays an essential role in achieving the SDGs. The key role of access to modern energy in attaining the social SDGs is generally accepted, but interpretation and implementation of SDG7 has focused on household access and basic needs. Transformative energy access - an approach to universal access that goes beyond basic household needs to provide the means for structural transformation of LDCs' economies through the development of more productive and modern activities and sectors - has been proposed by *The Least Developed Countries Report 2017*. This points to the question of how LDCs can reach transformational energy access.

The Panel will discuss the following questions:

- How can wider energy access contribute to accelerating economic and social progress in LDCs?
- What policies are LDCs putting in place to reach transformation energy access?
- What efforts is the international community undertaking in order to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 7?
- What can be expected from the High-Level Political Forum 2018?

Tuesday, 6 February 2018
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10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Plenary

- Item 3** Report of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget
- Item 4** Report of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission (TD/B/C.II/37)
- Item 5** Report of the Trade and Development Commission (TD/B/C.I/43 and Corr.1)
- Item 6** Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy (TD/B/EDE/1/3)
- Item 7** Report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development (TD/B/EFD/1/3)
- Item 8** Matters requiring action by the Board in the follow-up to the fourteenth session of the Conference
- Item 9** Other business
- Agenda of the 65th session of the TDB
 - Topics for the MYEM approved by the Extended Bureau of the TDB
 - Calendar of meetings will be issued to reflect the postponement of the Commissions and the dates set for the MYEM

2–4 p.m.

Regional Groups Consultations

4 p.m.

Extended Bureau Meeting
Room E.8116

Wednesday, 7 February 2018
Room XVII

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Informals

Consideration of draft agreed conclusions

3–4 p.m.

Informals

Consideration of draft agreed conclusions

4 p.m.

Closing plenary

All pending items

Item 10 Report of the Trade and Development Board on its sixty-sixth executive session