



UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Non-tariff Measures Week
Trade regulations and voluntary sustainability standards

9–11 October 2018, Room XXIV, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Draft agenda

Regulatory and non-regulatory measures have taken a prominent role in international trade. They are increasingly used for trade and non-trade objectives, affecting society, the environment and the economy. UNCTAD will host the fourth Non-tariff Measures Week in Geneva, Switzerland, from 9 to 11 October 2018, providing a platform for policymakers and researchers to discuss cutting-edge issues concerning the impact of non-tariff measures and voluntary sustainability standards on international trade and sustainable development. Together, they will consider ways of “shaping sustainable trade amid protectionism”.

Sessions will discuss the role and impact of the following factors:

- National and regional regulatory coherence and cooperation
- Channels connecting voluntary sustainability standards to inclusive trade
- International standard-setting bodies
- Data innovations
- Research advances
- Classification of non-tariff measures
- Multi-Agency Support Team
- Transparency in trade regulations

<http://unctad.org/ntmsweek>

Contact: ntm@un.org

Twitterhashtag: #NTMweek

Multi-Agency Support Team members



UNFSS members



Non-tariff Measures Week
9–11 October 2018,
Room XXIV, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Tuesday, 9 October 2018

10–10.15 Opening remarks

a.m.

Non-tariff measures, voluntary standards and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Ms. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Director, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD

**10.15 a.m.–
1 p.m. Policy debate: The role of trade regulations and voluntary standards
for sustainable development**

The session examines the potential of trade regulations and voluntary standards as powerful tools in the achievement of sustainable development.

Chair: Ms. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Director, Division on International Trade and Commodities

Panellists:

- H.E. Mr. Didier Chambovey, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland at the World Trade Organization
- H.E. Ms. Merewalesi Falemaka, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Pacific Islands Forum to the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations
- H.E. Mr. Alejandro de la Peña Navarrete, Secretary-General, Latin American Integration Association
- Mr. Paolo Garzotti, Deputy Permanent Representative of the European Union to the World Trade Organization
- Mr. Viwanou Gnassounou, Assistant Secretary-General, African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
- Ms. Nathalie Bernasconi-Osterwalder, Executive Director, International Institute of Sustainable Development (IISD) Europe

Overview of the Non-Tariff Measures Week and current work on non-tariff measures and voluntary sustainability standards

Lunch break

3–4.30 p.m. From data to policy: National initiatives relating to non-tariff measures to pursue good regulatory practices

National policymakers discuss methodologies, lessons learned and challenges to develop and streamline non-tariff measures.

Chair: Mr. Michael Ferrantino, Lead Specialist, World Bank

Panellists:

- Mr. Megat Akbarruddin Megat Ismail, Senior Consultant, Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC)
- Ms. Ruth Kyomuringa, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner for Customs Services, Rwanda
- Rogerio O. Correa, Brazil (tbc)
- Ms. Susan Stone, Senior Advisor, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

4.30–6 p.m. Regulatory cooperation: innovative approaches at the regional and multilateral level

Regional and multilateral cooperation can lower trade costs while maintaining regulatory benefits such as the protection of health and the environment. This session explores concrete solutions and lessons learned.

Chair: Mr. Melvin Spreij, Secretary, Standards and Trade Development Facility

Panellists:

- Ms. Noncedo Vutula, Chair, World Trade Organization Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures; Minister (Agriculture) at the South African Permanent Mission to the United Nations and other International Organizations
 - Ms. Kuena Molapo, Expert on Quality Infrastructure and Technical Barriers to Trade; former Programme Officer, Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community
 - Ms. Hilde Kruse, Senior Food Standards Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 - Ms. Camila Saffirio, Policy Analyst, Regulatory Policy Division, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
-

Wednesday, 10 October 2018

10–11.30 a.m. Bridging non-tariff measures policymaking and research: Questions and answers of policymakers and researchers

Policymakers and researchers discuss policymakers' information needs and how analysis can support policymaking. All policymakers and researchers are invited to send questions to ntm@un.org, tweet to @unctad #NTMweek or comment on Facebook at NTMHub.

Chair: Mr. Alan Winters, Professor, University of Sussex

Panellists:

- Mr. Peter Egger, Professor, University of Zürich
- Mr. Marcelo Olarreaga, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Economics, University of Geneva
- Ms. Anne-Celia Disdier, Professor, University of Paris
- Ms. Zornitsa Kutlina Dimitrova, Senior Economist, Office of the Chief Trade Economist, European Commission
- Mr. Shachi Amdekar, Economic Adviser, Department for International Trade, United Kingdom

11.30 a.m.– 1 p.m. Transparency in action: Non-tariff measures data mapping and dissemination

The session provides an overview about available information on data relating to non-tariff measures for the private sector, researchers and policymakers.

Chair: Mr. Ralf Peters, UNCTAD

Panellists:

- Mr. Samuel Munyaneza, UNCTAD
- Mr. Michael Ferrantino, World Bank
- Mr. Thomas Verbeet, World Trade Organization
- Mr. Mondher Mimouni, International Trade Centre

Lunch break

3–4 p.m. The unseen impact of non-tariff measures on international trade and sustainable development

The session presents findings for better understanding and assessing the effects of non-tariff measures on international trade and social and economic development.

Chair: Ms. Lee Anne Jackson, World Trade Organization

Panellists:

- Mr. Alessandro Nicita, UNCTAD
 - Mr. Aaditya Mattoo, World Bank
-

Discussant: Mr. Julien Gourdon, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

4–5 p.m. Operationalizing work on non-tariff measures: Trade facilitation, trade costs and regional integration

Approaches at the regional level to ensure that policies on non-tariff measures and related procedures work for sustainable development are discussed.

Chair: Mr. Poul Hansen, UNCTAD

Panellists:

- Mr. Yann Duval, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- Mr. Komi Tsowou, Economic Commission for Africa
- Ms. Hana Daoudi, Economic Commission for Europe

5–6 p.m. Multi-Agency Support Team meeting

Members (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, International Trade Centre, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, UNCTAD, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, World Bank and World Trade Organization) present the revised International Classification of Non-tariff Measures and discuss the way forward.

Non-tariff Measures Week
9–11 October 2018,
Room XXIV, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Thursday, 11 October 2017

10–11.30 a.m. **Merging market interests with development interests: Approaches with voluntary sustainability standards**

Voluntary sustainability standards have the capacity to bring economic benefits to smallholder producers and microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries. Existing voluntary sustainability standards systems are, however, inclined towards meeting market interests of big businesses. The session discusses challenges in merging the benefits of voluntary sustainability standards perceived by different stakeholders.

Chair: Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Panellists:

- Mr. Stephen Fevrier, Head of Mission, Permanent Delegation of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to the United Nations in Geneva
- Mr. Sergi Corbalán, Executive Director, Fair Trade Advocacy Office
- Mr. Rashid Kaukab, CUTS International Geneva
- Ms. Nina Eggert, Swiss Trading and Shipping Association
- Ms. Lorena Jaramillo, UNCTAD

11.30 a.m.– 1 p.m. **Voluntary sustainability standards, trade and sustainable development: United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards third flagship report**

The United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards presents its 2018 flagship report. The report is set to impart an agenda on voluntary sustainability standards and its relation to trade issues, in particular the impact of these standards on market access. The objective of this report is to provide an in-depth understanding of these standards from a trade policy perspective and explore how trade can shape their influence on developing countries' market access and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Chair: Mr. Santiago Fernández de Córdoba, UNCTAD

Panellists:

- Mr. Matteo Fiorini, European University Institute
- Mr. Manish Pande, Joint Director, Quality Council of India
- Mr. Thato Chabeli, Senior Manager, South Africa Bureau of Standards
- Mr. Rogerio Correa, Coordinator Brazilian Voluntary Sustainability Standards Platform, INMETRO

Discussants:

- Members of the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Trade Centre, United Nations Environment Programme, United
-

Lunch break

3–4.30 p.m. In search of equitable voluntary sustainability standards: Evidence from the field

The session discusses key findings from field studies and outlines possible strategic actions for entering sustainable value chains in an equitable manner.

Chair: Ms. Miho Shirotori, UNCTAD

Findings from the field studies:

- Ms. Julia Seiermann, UNCTAD

Discussants:

- Mr. Eric Beantanana, Permanent Mission of Madagascar
- Mr. Rodrigo Rupérez, Andean Community Consultant
- Mr. Toralf Richter, FiBL Research Institute of Organic Agriculture
- Mr. Gilbert Sindjou, private sector Sustainability Expert in Tropical Commodities and Ingredients

4.30-5 p.m. Closing session
