

UNCTAD MULTI-YEAR EXPERT MEETING ON Trade, Services and Development

9th Session

4–6 July 2022, Hybrid (online and Palais des Nations, Room XVII), 2.30–4.30 p.m. CEST

Day 1 — 4 July 2022

2.30–3 p.m.

Opening plenary session

Item 1: Election of officers (previous to the meeting)

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Opening statement

Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Item 3: The evolving landscape of digital trade in services

Introduction

Ms. Miho Shirotori, Officer-in-Charge, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD

Keynote: Linking trade in services and economic diversification

Mr. Bernard Hoekman, Professor, Director, Global Economics, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute, Italy

3–4.30 p.m.

Session 1. Services trade, economic diversification and resilience to economic shocks

Issues for discussion based on UNCTAD survey

- In which ways can trade in services enable economic diversification and resilience to economic shocks?
- How can developing countries and the least developed countries overcome particular challenges to benefit from the potential of trade in services for diversification and resilience?

Discussants

- **Mr. Jong Woo Kang**, Principal Economist, Asian Development Bank
- **Mr. Desire Loumou**, Senior Trade Expert on Trade in Services, AfCFTA Secretariat
- **Ms. Chantal Ononaiwu**, Trade Policy and Legal Specialist, Caribbean Community
- **Ms. Anu Peltola**, Officer-in-Charge, UNCTAD Statistics

Interactive debate

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UNCTAD MULTI-YEAR EXPERT MEETING ON Trade, Services and Development

9th Session

Day 2 — 5 July 2022

2.30–4.30 p.m. **Session 2. The potential for diversification towards and through digitally deliverable services**

Issues for discussion based on UNCTAD survey

- How has trade in digitally deliverable services contributed to economic diversification and resilience?
- In which way have digitally deliverable services contributed to the diversification of other activities, for example through knowledge transfer, online education, etc.?
- What are the conditions of infrastructure, regulations and skills that support better supply capacity in information and communications technologies and digitally deliverable services, to harvest their transformative potential?

Discussants

- **Ms. Xiaolan Fu**, Professor, University of Oxford, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- **Ms. Rupa Chanda**, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
- **Mr. Janos Ferencz**, Trade Policy Analyst, Trade in Services Division, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Sharing of regional and sectoral experiences

Interactive debate

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Day 3 — 6 July 2022

2.30–4.30 p.m. **Session 3. Pursuing the potential for diversification – Trade and cooperation frameworks for digitally deliverable services**

Issues for discussion based on UNCTAD survey

- How can trade agreements and cooperation frameworks contribute to improving access to digitally deliverable services and thereby contribute to economic diversification?
- How can trade agreements and cooperation frameworks contribute to building capacity in digitally deliverable services through the improvement of infrastructure, regulations and skills?

Discussants

- **Ms. Deborah Elms**, Founder, Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre
- **Mr. Jorge Arbache**, Vice-President for the Private Sector, Development Bank of Latin America
- **Mr. Keith Nurse**, Principal, Sir Arthur Lewis Community College, Saint Lucia; Expert Member, Committee for Development Policy, Economic and Social Council

Interactive debate

Closing plenary session

Item 4: Adoption of the report of the meeting

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