



Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development
10–12 October 2022
Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Provisional programme

Monday, 10 October 2022
10–10.30 a.m. Opening plenary session

Opening statement Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Item 1 Election of officers

Chair: Ms. Maimuna Kibenga Tarishi, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Vice Chair-cum-Rapporteur: Dr. José Roberto Sánchez-Fung, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the World Trade Organization and UNCTAD

Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

10.30 a.m.–1 p.m. Informal session

Item 3 Recent developments, challenges and opportunities in commodity markets

Overview: Recent trends and outlook in commodity markets

Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Officer-in-Charge, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities (DITC), UNCTAD

Recent developments and challenges in commodity markets: Agriculture

Mr. Alexander Karavaytsev, Senior Economist, International Grains Council

Recent developments in the cereals market

Mr. Gerardo Pataconi, Head of Operations, International Coffee Organization

Recent trends in the coffee market

Ms. Malathy Parasuraman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Sri Lanka

The role of the food crop sector in the economy of Sri Lanka

Ms. Li Lan, International Bamboo and Rattan Organization

Developments in the market for bamboo

Mr. René Araujo-Enciso, Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The outlook for global food and agricultural markets

1–3 p.m. Lunch break

.../.

Monday, 10 October 2022
3–6 p.m. Informal session

Item 3 Recent developments, challenges and opportunities in commodity markets (continued)

Recent developments and challenges in commodity markets: Minerals, ores, metals and energy

Mr. Guillaume Albasini, Energy and Mining Analyst, Switzerland

The changing market for strategic minerals

Mr. Nicholas Woolley, Expert, Commodities and Macroeconomic Risks, Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development

Recent developments in the market for precious metals

Mr. Andrew Walker, Vice-President, Strategy, Cheniere Marketing, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The emerging global gas outlook

Mr. Guillaume Albasini, Energy and Mining Analyst, Switzerland

The changing market for energy

Ms. Toril Bosoni, Head, Oil Markets Division, International Energy Agency

Recent developments in the oil market

Contacts

Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD,
<https://unctad.org/topic/commodities>

Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Officer-in-Charge, janvier.nkurunziza@unctad.org

Mr. Taro Boel, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, 41 22 917 5135; taro.boel@unctad.org

Ms. Danièle Boglio, Staff Assistant, 41 22 917 6286; daniele.boglio@unctad.org

Ms. Gabriela Riffard Arjonas, Staff Assistant, 41 22 917 5261; gabriela.arjonas@unctad.org

.../.

Tuesday, 11 October 2022

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Informal session

Item 4 Pathways to economic diversification in commodity-dependent developing countries

Thematic presentation

Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Officer-in-Charge, Commodities Branch, DITC, UNCTAD

Product and export diversification

Mr. Stefan Csordas, Economic Affairs Officer, Commodities Branch, DITC, UNCTAD

Key ingredients of a successful diversification strategy

Mr. Michael Wurmser, Founder, Norge Mining, United Kingdom

The imperative for on-site value addition

Diversification experiences

Mr. Krishna Chikhuri, Senior Agricultural Planning Officer, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security, Mauritius

Mauritius: Diversification away from strong dependence on the export of sugar

Ms. Suvdmaa Munkhzaya, International Consultant, Switzerland

Adding value to local commodities to capture more revenues in the value chain: The case of the meat value chain in Mongolia

Mr. Emile Osumba, Finance and Investment Expert, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Value addition in the mining sector: The development of the battery value chain in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Mr. Tony Eneh, Executive Director, Beer Sectoral Group, Nigeria

Adding value to local commodities: The brewery industry in Nigeria

Mr. Andrey Kuleshov, Strategy and Development Adviser, Common Fund for Commodities

Investments for economic diversification: Environmental, social and governance-related transparent reporting

1–3 p.m. Lunch break

3–5 p.m. Informal session

Item 4 Pathways to economic diversification in commodity-dependent developing countries
(continued)

Diversification for food security

Dr. José Roberto Sánchez-Fung, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the World Trade Organization and UNCTAD

Diversification strategy: Experience from the Dominican Republic

Mr. Carlos Razo, Chief, Office of the Director, DITC, UNCTAD

The state of developing countries' food import dependence

Mr. Ralf Peters, Officer-in-Charge, Trade Analysis Branch, DITC, UNCTAD

Export restrictions as a barrier to export diversification

Ms. Charlotte Bla Eba, Lecturer in Economics, Member of the Centre for African Research on Enterprise and Economic Development, University of the West of Scotland, United Kingdom

The role of local commodity exchanges in improving food security in Africa

Mr. Suliman Ali Al-Khateeb, Assistant Deputy for Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia efforts to foster sustainable and resilient agrifood systems

Ms. Steffany Bermudez, Policy Analyst, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Adopting voluntary sustainability standards to increase food security through the production and trade of staple crops: The case of the East African Community .../.

Tuesday, 11 October 2022

5–6 p.m. Book presentation

Mr. Peter Nagle, Senior Economist, Prospects Group, World Bank

Presentation of the publication titled

Commodity Markets: Evolution, Challenges and Policies

edited by John Baffes and Peter Nagle

Followed by interactive discussion

6–7.30 p.m. Networking session (by invitation)

.../.

Wednesday, 12 October 2022
10 a.m.–1 p.m. Informal session

Item 3 **Recent developments, challenges and opportunities in commodity markets** (*continued*)

Chair: **Mr. Salomon Eheth**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Cameroon to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

10–10.15 a.m. Opening statement

Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Officer-in-Charge, Commodities Branch, DITC, UNCTAD

Potential contribution of bamboo to sustainable development

10.15–10.30 a.m. Presentation of the report

Commodities at a Glance: Special Issue on Bamboo

Mr. Rachid Amui, Economic Affairs Officer, DITC, UNCTAD

10.30–11.50 a.m. Panel discussion

Mr. Arjan van der Vegte, Research and Development Manager, Moso International, Netherlands
Value addition to raw bamboo: The transformation process and possible end products, e.g. engineered bamboo

Ms. Luisa Molari, Associate Professor, Department of Civil, Chemical, Environment and Materials Engineering, University of Bologna, Italy
Bamboo as an alternate building material

Mr. René Kaam, Director, Central Africa Regional Office, International Bamboo and Rattan Organization
The role of bamboo in environmental management: Carbon sequestration, protecting biodiversity and ecosystems, restoration of degraded lands

Mr. Fei Benhua, Capacity-Building Manager, International Bamboo and Rattan Organization
Experience from China

11.50 a.m.–1 p.m. Contributions from the floor

1–3 p.m. Lunch break

.../.

Wednesday, 12 October 2022
3–5.30 p.m. Informal session

Item 3 **Recent developments, challenges and opportunities in commodity markets** (*continued*)

Phosphate fertilizers and food security

3–4.15 p.m. The new landscape of phosphates

Panel discussion

Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Officer-in-Charge, Commodities Branch, DITC, UNCTAD
Overview and context

Mr. Romain Perez, Economic Affairs Officer, Commodities Branch, DITC, UNCTAD
Hard facts from the market for phosphates: Main importers, main exporters and main uses, including fertilizers for agriculture and electric batteries for the fourth industrial revolution

Mr. Michael Wurmser, Founder, Norge Mining, United Kingdom
Phosphates in Norway: Analysis of recent new deposit findings

Ms. Laura Cross, Director, Market Intelligence, International Fertilizer Association
The phosphate market, its link to food security and forecast of consumption globally and in Africa in the next two to five years

4.14–5.30 p.m. Scaling up phosphate fertilizer utilization in developing countries

Panel discussion

Mr. Majumdar, Director General, African Plant Nutrition Institute
The role of phosphorus in smallholder production systems and its sustainable management to improve crop yields and farm profit while reducing environmental impacts

Ms. Jihane Ajijti, Head, Business Development, Office Chérifien des Phosphates, Morocco
Facilitating access of African farmers to phosphate products

Ms. Malathy Parasuraman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Sri Lanka
Present status and future trend of phosphorus industry in Sri Lanka

5.30–6 p.m. Closing plenary session

Item 5 Adoption of the report of the meeting

Ms. Maria Teresa Da Piedade Moreira, Officer-in-Charge, DITC, UNCTAD

* * * *