



working towards prosperity for all



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Headquarters

Geneva, Switzerland

Creation

Established in 1964 as an organ of the United Nations General Assembly.

UNCTAD is the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the related issues of finance, investment, technology, and sustainable development. It is also the lead agency of the United Nations Inter-agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity.

basic facts

Membership

194 member States

Secretariat

500 staff members

Secretary-General

Mukhisa Kituyi (Kenya)
since September 2013

Deputy Secretary-General

Joakim Reiter (Sweden)
since April 2015

Budget

Approximately \$70 million from the United Nations regular budget and \$35 million from extrabudgetary funds

foreword



Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

When UNCTAD was created 50 years ago, its member States called for “a better and more effective system of international economic cooperation, whereby the division of the world into areas of poverty and plenty may be banished and prosperity achieved by all”.¹ Surveying today’s social and economic landscape, this goal is more relevant than ever.

After the financial and economic crisis of 2008, the worst since the Great Depression, the global economy has yet to return to robust, balanced and sustainable growth. More than 200 million people are unemployed worldwide, 62 million more than if pre-crisis trends had continued.² Inequalities of income and wealth are growing, both between and within countries. While there has been progress in reducing the number of people living in extreme poverty, mainly as a result of China’s rapid economic growth, in 2010 2.4 billion people lived on less than \$2 day, the average poverty line in developing countries. This was only a slight decline from 2.59 billion people in 1981.

In 1964, newly independent countries sought to take control of their own development pathways. Many viewed trade as a promising means to that end. They wanted a forum where rich and poor countries could come together and engage in a dialogue on how to address international economic imbalances, level the playing field and make sure that developing countries would not forever remain on the margins of the global economy, but also partake in the benefits of trade.

Today, the context for development has changed. Divisions between North and South, as well as East and West, have blurred. The emergence of some developing countries to become global economic players has altered relations among countries and regions. South–South trade and cooperation has grown, as has regional economic integration.

Nonetheless, some developing countries, such as the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, continue to face stagnating development

prospects and vulnerability that hold back their aspirations. And in addition to inequality and poverty, we are all confronted with a number of challenges in the areas of finance, food security and climate change.

The need to build a world economy that serves the interests of all is at the core of the work of UNCTAD. This spans analytical research and innovative policy proposals, intergovernmental negotiations and consensus-building, and technical cooperation with developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

In the past 50 years, UNCTAD’s thinking has made a significant contribution to informing and shaping the global development agenda, as well as to building national capacities. For example, its proposal that donor countries commit to an aid target of 0.7 per cent of their national income was later translated into a commitment within the Millennium Development Goals. Its call for debt relief in developing countries became the basis of the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative. UNCTAD was also the birthplace of the Generalized System of Trade Preferences, which helped countries, particularly the least developed ones, to benefit from globalization through increased market access. UNCTAD was one of the first United Nations bodies to draw the attention of the international community to the specific challenges faced by those countries that are known as least developed countries today. All along, UNCTAD has advocated that countries be given the headroom to address their specific needs and challenges without relying on one-size-fits-all policies.

Our work has evolved to reflect the altered international context. It includes, for example, issues of investment, South–South cooperation, trade and gender, financial volatility and climate change. As UNCTAD marked its fiftieth anniversary, it continued to contribute to the international community’s efforts to draw up a post-2015 agenda for development that will be socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. In the coming years, we expect to focus increasingly on ways of translating sustainable development objectives into real progress and improved livelihoods for all people, especially those who continue to live in poverty.

¹ United Nations, 1964, *Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development*, Geneva, 23 March–16 June 1964, Vol. 1, Final Act and Report, p. 3, para. 1 (New York, United Nations publication).

² International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends 2014*.



UNCTAD has a unique and special place in the United Nations system as the only conference platform with permanent presence intentionally designed to maintain undivided focus and attention on the development dimension of international cooperation. We indeed owe it to UNCTAD that, for the last 50 years, development-related issues of special and important interest to developing countries have been kept alive within the United Nations system... The juxtaposition of high levels of deprivation and extreme poverty on one hand, and equally high levels of affluence and conspicuous consumption and waste on the other, is a clear testimony that UNCTAD's purpose and historic mission are far from being fulfilled.

M.C. Bimha
Minister for Industry and Commerce
Zimbabwe

Over the past 50 years, UNCTAD has always been committed to promoting the development of the member States, especially developing countries, worldwide, and has played an invaluable role in promoting world trade and economic development, facilitating South–South cooperation and South–North dialogue, supporting the participation of developing countries in multilateral trade and economic affairs and protecting their interests.

China hopes that UNCTAD will maintain its unique advantage in trade and development, play a more active role in the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda and global economic governance, and make a greater contribution to the inclusive and sustainable development of developing countries.

Gao Hucheng
Minister for Commerce
China

Throughout its half-century-long history, UNCTAD has been successful in delivering technical assistance to least developed countries, integrating developing countries in the global economy and – starting from 1990s – contributing to international efforts to help States with economies in transition.


Dmitry Medvedev
Prime Minister
Russian Federation

quotes

The bilateral relations and multifaceted cooperation between Mongolia and UNCTAD have grown successfully over the past five decades, and UNCTAD assistance has played an enormous role in Mongolia's transition to the market economy.

Luvsanvandan Bold
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mongolia





As UNCTAD celebrates its fiftieth anniversary, Mauritius takes great pride in its evolution from conference diplomacy status into an authoritative knowledge-based United Nations institution geared towards shaping current policy debates and thinking on development and trade.

This evolution bolsters its relevance in an increasingly volatile international environment in which UNCTAD strives to assist the beneficial integration of the developing countries, least developing countries and inherently small island developing States, like Mauritius, into the global economy and into a multilateral trading system which is, and must remain, development oriented.

Arvin Boolell Gosk
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Regional Integration and International Trade
Mauritius

Fifty years ago, Peru took part in the first Ministerial Conference that led to the creation of UNCTAD, which would take on the commitment to take the necessary steps and carry out reforms in order to build a world with more fairness, freedom and equality and more opportunities. Since then, as part of its agenda, hand in hand with UNCTAD, Peru has been promoting development, and inclusive economic and trade policies.

Magali Silva Velarde-Álvarez
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism
Peru

UNCTAD has provided a forum in which developing countries can articulate and seek solutions to their special trade and development concerns. While we celebrate with you this milestone, UNCTAD's role is more critical than ever before, given the fact that the anticipated gains from trade liberalization remain elusive for a large number of developing countries, including some vulnerable economies. Therefore, without doubt, developing countries still require the expertise and support of UNCTAD.

Kenneth Baugh
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
Jamaica

As we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of UNCTAD, Brazil is proud to have always been an active participant in the history of the institution. UNCTAD was created as the result of renewed perceptions of the root causes of underdevelopment and of the need for new and specific approaches to the challenges of development. It has served to promote plurality of thought and action, even at times when the international community – especially in the fields of economic ideas and policy – veered towards uniform and quite often unfounded certainties.

Marcos Bezerra Abbott Galvão
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
to the World Trade Organization and other
Economic Organizations in Geneva
Brazil



**from poverty
to prosperity**



from poverty



"To combat the generalized prevalence of poverty and underemployment, the poorest countries should pursue deliberate policies for employment-rich growth to achieve two complementary objectives: expanding the number of jobs so as to absorb the growing labour force and raising the incomes generated by these jobs. Reaching these objectives will involve implementing a range of mutually supportive policies aimed at building productive capacity and fostering structural transformation. Through such an approach they will be able to rely less on aid and increasingly turn to domestic resource mobilization to finance their growth."

Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD





“UNCTAD advocates embarking on a quest for a more ambitious, transformative paradigm of development. To that end, it calls for a broad, coherent and integrated macroeconomic policy framework. This includes a renewed focus on the real economy, a rebalancing of growth towards domestic demand and improved international monetary policy coordination.

The post-2015 sustainable development goals will require scaling up of investment. We need a global ‘New Deal’.”

Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD



to prosperity



Policy coherence at the national level has to be complemented by policy coherence at the international level, providing countries with the policy space needed to implement their national development strategies and to achieve the sustainable development goals.

aglobalforum foraction

THINK

DEBATE



UNCTAD is the United Nations body responsible for dealing with economic and sustainable development issues with a focus on trade, finance, investment and technology. It helps developing countries to participate equitably in the global economy.

UNCTAD carries out economic research, produces innovative analyses and makes policy recommendations to support government decision-making.



research

DELIVER



consensus

UNCTAD is a forum where representatives of all countries can freely engage in dialogue, share experiences and tackle critical issues affecting the global economy. It promotes consensus at the multilateral level.

UNCTAD turns research findings into practical applications and offers direct technical assistance to help countries build the capacities they need for equitable integration into the global economy and to improve the well-being of their populations.

technical cooperation



The UNCTAD World Investment Forum serves as a global platform for inclusive dialogue and policy formulation.

It brings together a broad coalition of stakeholders to discuss investment needs, opportunities and strategies.

strategy

Since the early 1990s, UNCTAD has supported investment promotion agencies in attracting foreign direct investment for development through strategic guidance, capacity-building and the dissemination of leading-edge tools and practices. In 1995, UNCTAD led to the establishment of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies and since 2002 stages annual awards for excellence in investment promotion.

civil society

UNCTAD holds an annual public symposium, which provides a platform for civil society to voice its concerns, offer new ideas and interact with government representatives.

In 2012, UNCTAD launched the Global Service Forum to highlight the importance of the service sector in the global economy.



In 2000, the United Nations set the Millennium Development Goals. These expire at the end of 2015. Replacing them will be a new set of targets – the sustainable development goals – to be met by 2030. The exact scope of these goals, part of the post-2015 development agenda, will be decided by the United Nation before the start of 2016.

UNCTAD plays an active role in providing advisory services to the Group of 20 on issues related to macroeconomic and development policies such as employment, global economic governance, commodity price volatility and investment.



policy dialogue

UNCTAD brings governments, industry and civil society together to focus on the economic, trade and development implications of the preservation and protection of the environment. Tackling climate change is another priority.



UNCTAD holds a ministerial meeting every four years to discuss major global economic issues and decide on its programme of work.

UNCTAD is governed by its 194 member States.

The Trade and Development Board is the governing body of UNCTAD that oversees the Organization's activities. It meets in a regular session once a year and up to three times a year in executive sessions.

quadrennial conferences inaugurated by

- 1 Ludwig von Moos, President of the Swiss Confederation, Geneva, 1964
- 2 Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, New Delhi, 1968
- 3 Salvador Allende Gossens, President of Chile, Santiago, 1972
- 4 Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, President of Kenya, Nairobi, 1976
- 5 Ferdinand E. Marcos, President and Prime Minister of the Philippines, Manila, 1979
- 6 Mika Špiljak, Chairman of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, Belgrade, 1983
- 7 Pierre Aubert, President of the Swiss Confederation, Geneva, 1987
- 8 César Gaviria Trujillo, President of Colombia, Cartagena, 1992
- 9 Nelson Mandela, President of South Africa, Midrand, 1996
- 10 Chuan Leekpai, Prime Minister of Thailand, Bangkok, 2000
- 11 Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of Brazil, Sao Paulo, 2004
- 12 John Agyekum Kufuor, President of Ghana, Accra, 2008
- 13 Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, Doha, 2012





UNCTAD I 1964 Geneva



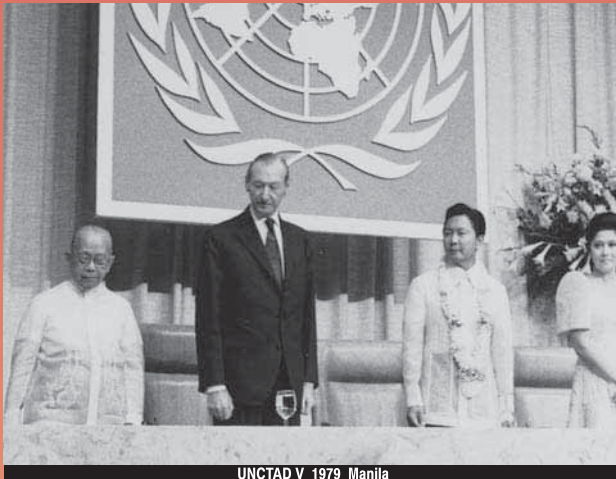
UNCTAD II 1968 New Delhi



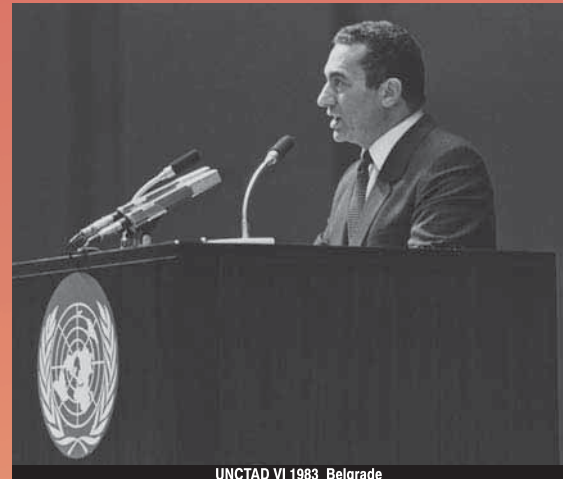
UNCTAD III 1972 Santiago



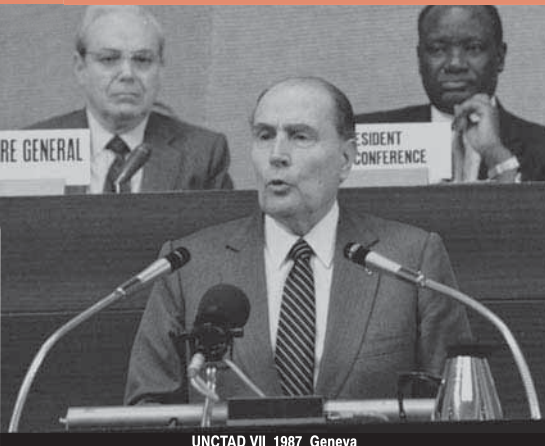
UNCTAD IV 1976 Nairobi



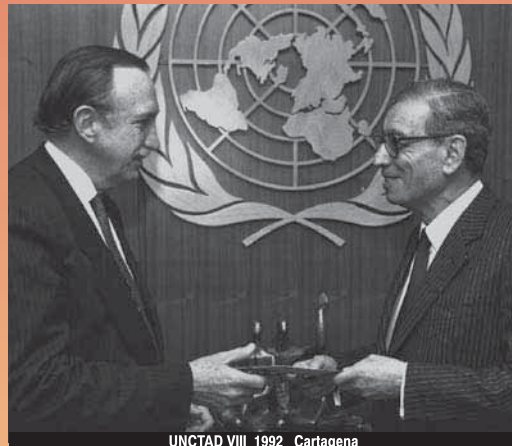
UNCTAD V 1979 Manila



UNCTAD VI 1983 Belgrade



UNCTAD VII 1987 Geneva



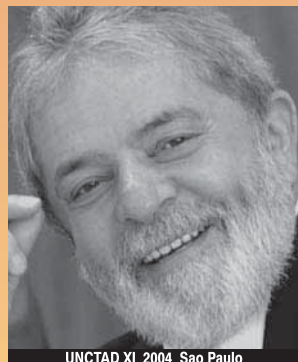
UNCTAD VIII 1992 Cartagena



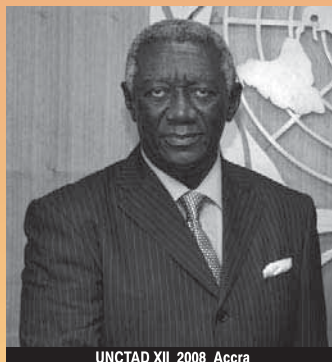
UNCTAD IX 1996 Midrand



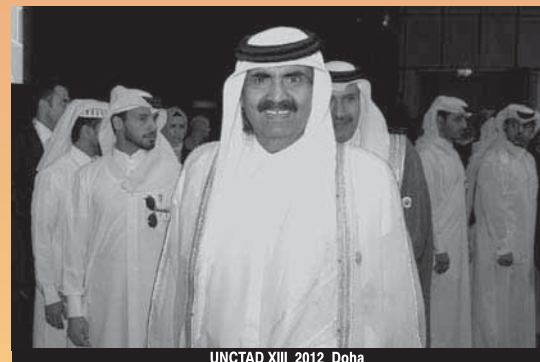
UNCTAD X 2000 Bangkok



UNCTAD XI 2004 Sao Paulo



UNCTAD XII 2008 Accra



UNCTAD XIII 2012 Doha

high-policy dialogue conferences



Prebisch lectures

1st Prebisch Lecture

THE CRISIS OF CAPITALISM AND THE PERIPHERY

RAUL PREBISCH
First Secretary-General of UNCTAD
July 1982

2nd Prebisch Lecture

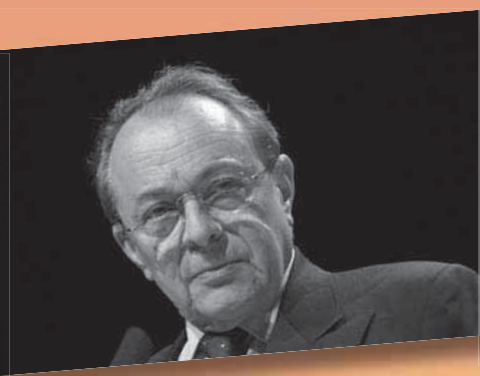
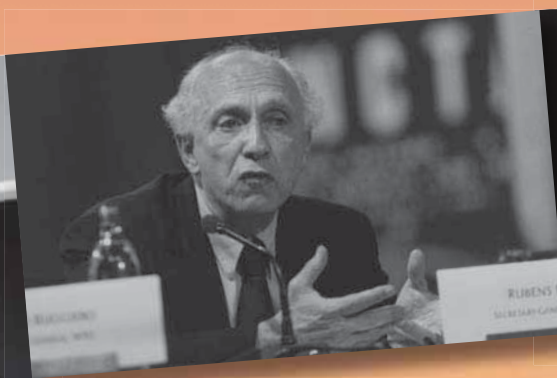
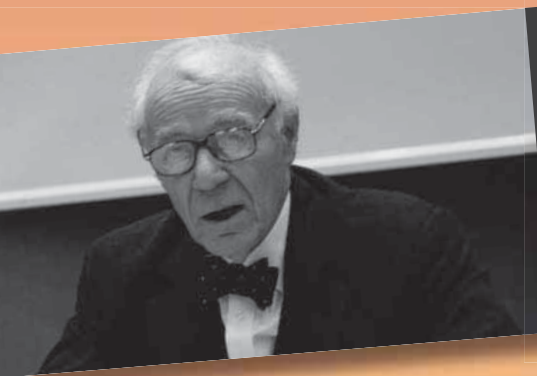
PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI
Prime Minister of India
June 1983

3rd Prebisch Lecture

THE EMERGING PROSPECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT
AND THE WORLD ECONOMY

SABURO OKITA
President, International University of Japan
July 1987



4th Prebisch Lecture

RESTRUCTURING IN THE UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC RELATIONS

ABEL G. AGANBEGYAN
Principal Economic Adviser to the
Government of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics
July 1989

5th Prebisch Lecture

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: TOWARDS A NEW PARTNERSHIP

BERNARD T. CHIDZERO
Senior Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development of Zimbabwe

ENRIQUE IGLESIAS
President of the Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, D.C.

MICHEL ROCARD
Former Prime Minister of France
February 1992

6th Prebisch Lecture

GLOBALIZATION, ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING AND DEVELOPMENT

JOHN H. DUNNING
Professor of International Business
State University of New Jersey, Rutgers
April 1994

7th Prebisch Lecture

THE GLOBAL AGE: FROM A SCEPTICAL SOUTH TO A FEARFUL NORTH

JAGDISH BHAGWATI, Professor of Economics
ARTHUR LEHMAN, Professor of Political Science
Columbia University
April 1996

8th Prebisch Lecture

GLOBALIZATION, SOCIAL CONFLICT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

DANY RODRIK
Rafiq Hariri Professor of International Political Economy
John F. Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University
October 1997

9th Prebisch Lecture

TOWARDS A NEW PARADIGM FOR DEVELOPMENT

JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ
Senior Vice President and Chief Economist
The World Bank
October 1998

10th Prebisch Lecture

MARKETS, POLITICS AND GLOBALIZATION: CAN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY BE CIVILIZED?

GERALD KARL HELLEINER
Professor, Centre for International Studies
University of Toronto
December 2000

12th Prebisch Lecture

UNCTAD PAST AND PRESENT: OUR NEXT FORTY YEARS

RUBENS RICUPERO
Secretary-General of UNCTAD
September 2004

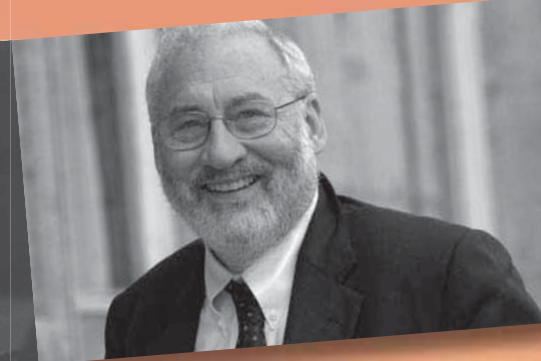
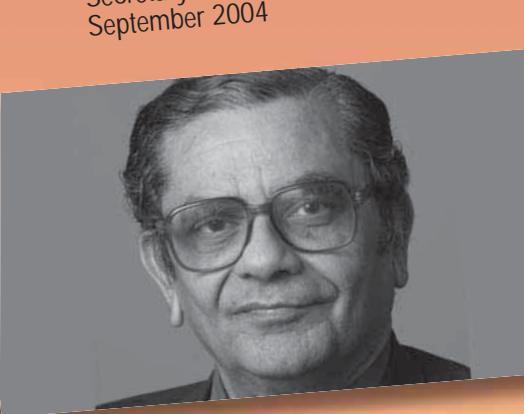
11th Prebisch Lecture

TRIBUTE TO RAUL PREBISCH

FAYZA ABOULNAGA
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Egypt

GAMANI COREA
Former Secretary-General of UNCTAD

JAVAD ZARIF
Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs
Islamic Republic of Iran
October 2001



13th Prebisch Lecture

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA: LEADING THE WORLD ECONOMY

LAWRENCE R. KLEIN
Professor and Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences
November 2005

14th Prebisch Lecture

GLOBALIZATION IN THE ERA OF ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS

JEFFREY SACHS
Professor and Director, Earth Institute
Columbia University
September 2009

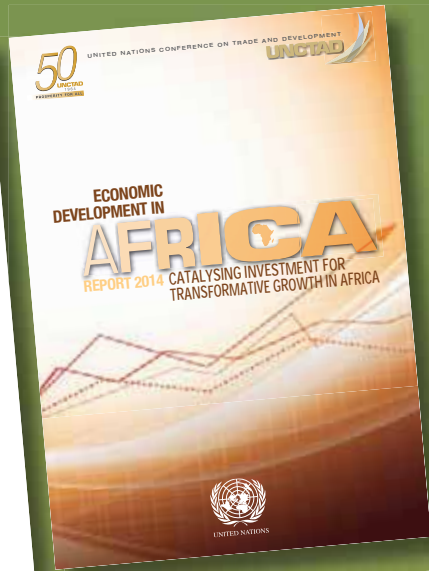
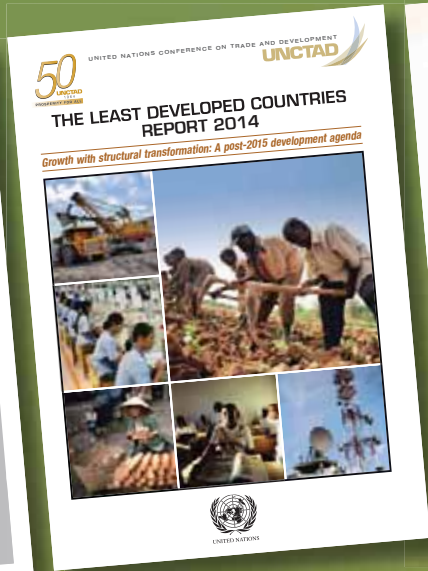
15th Prebisch Lecture

ECUADOR: DEVELOPMENT AS A POLITICAL PROCESS

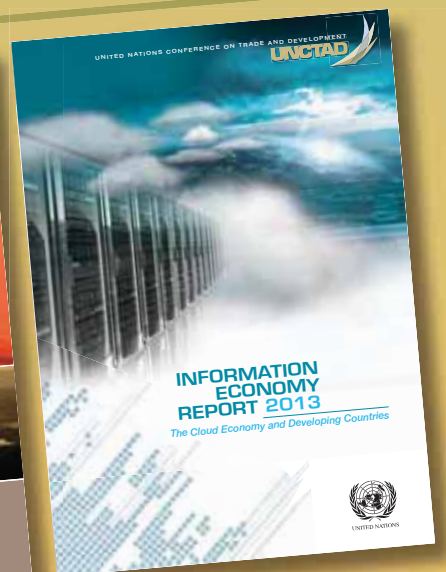
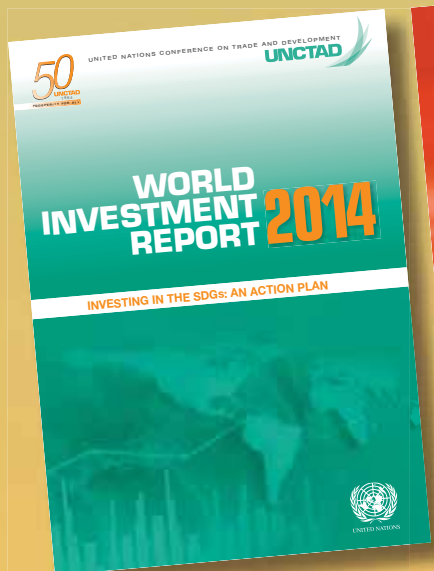
RAFAEL CORREA DELGADO
President of Ecuador
October 2014



thinking ahead
of the curve



UNCTAD,
as a knowledge-based
organization, proposes
innovative ideas and
options to policymakers





“UNCTAD's independent thinking has in many ways challenged the way we perceive and practice development. It has made a significant contribution to informing and shaping the global development agenda, as well as to building national capacities.”

Mukhisa Kituyi
Secretary-General of UNCTAD

The ***Trade and Development Report*** provides policymakers with an evidence-based assessment of trade, development and macroeconomic policy challenges in a global context. It suggests possible reforms at the national and international levels that could improve the governance of the global economy in support of development. It aims to help close the economic and social gaps between countries and achieve prosperity for all.

The Least Developed Countries Report is the only worldwide periodic publication devoted exclusively to research and policy analysis relating to this country category.

Through its ***Economic Development in Africa Report***, UNCTAD contributes to policy dialogue, formulation and implementation in Africa and helps stimulate debates and galvanize international action on economic issues that affect its development.

Since 1991, the annual ***World Investment Report*** has provided unrivalled data and analysis on foreign direct investment and the activities of transnational corporations.

UNCTAD also supports the development of policy making capacities in developing countries in the area of science, technology and innovation. The ***Technology and Innovation Report*** provides a comprehensive look at topical issues.

The ***Information Economy Report*** focuses on trends in information and communications technologies (e-commerce, e-business) and on national and international policy options for improving their impact on development.



UNCTAD has consistently questioned the absence of a development dimension in the Washington Consensus, highlighting the role that both governments and markets can play in national development strategies.

The Organization put forward the concepts of a developmental State and good development governance, including for least developed countries, to challenge the more conventional, but unduly narrow, wisdom on good governance. UNCTAD also emphasizes the importance of industrial policies for achieving structural transformation.

UNCTAD has been warning about the dangers of global imbalances and unregulated financial markets for many years.

good governance

In its *Trade and Development Report, 2004*, it cautioned that large disparities in the strength of domestic demand persist among the major industrial countries, and increasing trade imbalances between the major economies could increase instability in currency and financial markets.

development

For several years, UNCTAD has emphasized that volatility of exchange rates and international financial markets – particularly linked to short-term private capital flows – can damage developing countries' competitiveness and weaken long-term growth prospects. The *Trade and Development Report, 2009* called for multilateral rules on exchange rates to match the multilateral rules governing the trading system.



In June 2008, UNCTAD warned of the dangers of the financialization of commodity markets and the impact of speculation on global commodity prices.

UNCTAD's Trade and Development Reports were already examining the links between inequality, instability and unregulated financial markets in the late 1990s. Subsequently, UNCTAD identified income and wealth inequality as one of the factors that led to the financial crisis of 2008. The Organization therefore proposed a more balanced recovery package of macroeconomic policies, including incomes policy, to boost consumer demand, particularly in countries with a large current account surplus. This could bring about a more balanced and sustainable growth path at both the national and global levels.



financial markets

casino economy

instability





Based on the conceptual and policy work of UNCTAD, the category of least developed countries was established in 1971, identifying and classifying some of the world's poorest, economically vulnerable and structurally disadvantaged countries. Since then UNCTAD has played a central role in carrying out original research on these countries and drawing the attention of the international community to their needs.

capacity-building

The first comprehensive analyses of patterns and trends in one-dollar-a-day poverty in least developed countries were published by UNCTAD.

It was instrumental in the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the current standard target of 0.7 per cent of gross domestic product for official development assistance.

UNCTAD has advanced a methodology for integrating trade into poverty reduction in least developed countries.

Having proposed debt relief for poor countries from as early as 1972, UNCTAD adopted a set of guidelines for debt relief operations that took into account the socioeconomic priorities of poor countries in 1980.

In 2008, as the economic crisis again highlighted debt concerns, UNCTAD launched a project on responsible borrowing and lending practices. The following year, the Organization called for a temporary moratorium on official debt for low-income countries.

For years, the computerized Debt Management and Financial Analysis System of UNCTAD, commonly known by its acronym DMFAS, has helped developing countries manage their debt. It has been used by 68 countries.

debt

In light of its goal to achieve prosperity for all, UNCTAD runs programmes that focus on the poorest and most vulnerable developing countries in the world: those in Africa, the least developed countries and countries with specific geographical impediments, notably landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

structural transformation

poverty trap

UNCTAD proposes a paradigm shift toward policies centred on the development of productive capacities in least developed countries – policies that allow goods and products to be grown and made in these countries to be sold at home and abroad.

This calls for effective measures aimed at ensuring structural transformation and job creation, rather than relying on welfare measures.

UNCTAD is a pioneer in raising awareness of the many implications of graduation from least developed country status. This is particularly relevant, given the objective of the Istanbul Programme of Action to enable half of the least developed countries to meet the graduation criteria by 2020. UNCTAD provides advice and holds capacity-building workshops for these countries to enable their progress towards graduation from the least developed countries category.



accounting



UNCTAD reviews the investment policies of requesting countries and helps implement investment reforms that can attract more foreign direct investment and generate sustainable development benefits from such investment.

To date, UNCTAD investment policy reviews have been conducted in 36 countries, and a further 40 countries have requested a review or follow-up activities.

In collaboration with other United Nations agencies such as the Global Compact, UNCTAD works to promote sustainability standards in global capital markets. For example, through its Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative, nine partner exchanges, including NASDAQ and the London Stock Exchange Group, made a voluntary commitment to promote sustainability practices among their 15,000 listed companies.

- Following government reforms based on the Investment Policy Review of Rwanda, foreign direct investment inflows to the country increased by almost 800 per cent; in the Dominican Republic, they quadrupled following the implementation of UNCTAD recommendations.
- UNCTAD regularly helps countries draft and implement investment laws. For example, it drafted the investment laws for Tunisia and Bhutan, which will help unleash foreign direct investment potential in new and dynamic sectors.

foreign direct investment



investment regime

UNCTAD is in a unique position to monitor investment policy changes and, at the request of the Group of 20, provides periodic monitoring reports. It also produces the *Investment Policy Monitor* and the *Global Investment Trends Monitor*.

capital market

The Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development has become the most recognized policy tool for placing sustainable development objectives into the centre of investment policy and has influenced the global debate on the future of the international investment system, including investor–State dispute settlement.

UNCTAD activities on international investment agreements (IIAs) aim at making the IIA system work better for States and investors alike, and more conducive to sustainable development. The Organization maintains a unique database on IIAs, conducts cutting-edge research and provides technical assistance to government officials and other IIA stakeholders.

The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting promotes transparency in corporate accounting, a strong asset for attracting business and investment.

investment policy



**enhancing
development
through trade**



Conferences held by UNCTAD have led to many international commodity agreements, including those on sugar, cocoa, jute and jute products, natural rubber, tropical timber, tin, olive oil and wheat.

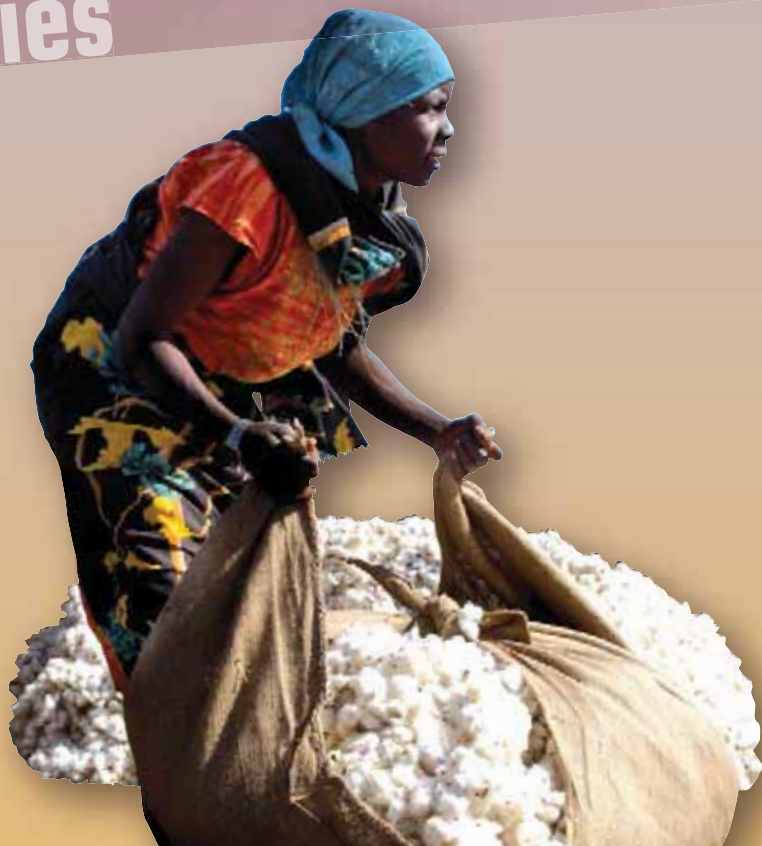
They have also resulted in the creation of international study groups on nickel and copper.

The Common Fund for Commodities was the brainchild of UNCTAD: a means of providing financial backing for the operation of international stocks and research and development in commodities.

poverty reduction

commodities

UNCTAD work on the link between trade and poverty reduction aims to understand why this link has had limited impact in least developed countries. Through its diagnostic trade integration studies, it helps put trade at the heart of economic policy in those countries.





Using the Infocomm website, governments and businesses can track trends in commodity prices and trade.

This UNCTAD online project helps farmers compare prices and decide where and when to sell their products.

infoshare

markets

UNCTAD prepared the trade development strategy of Comoros, which was centred on achieving food self-sufficiency, improving access to international markets and establishing a presence in regional markets.

UNCTAD also organizes the annual Africa Oil, Gas and Minerals Trade and Finance Conference, bringing together representatives of the business sector and governments.





In the 1960s, UNCTAD provided the intellectual basis for the adoption and launching of the Generalized System of Preferences, a system aimed at enabling developing countries to trade equitably with developed countries.

Preferences provided under the system have helped promote the exports of beneficiary developing countries, particularly least developed countries.

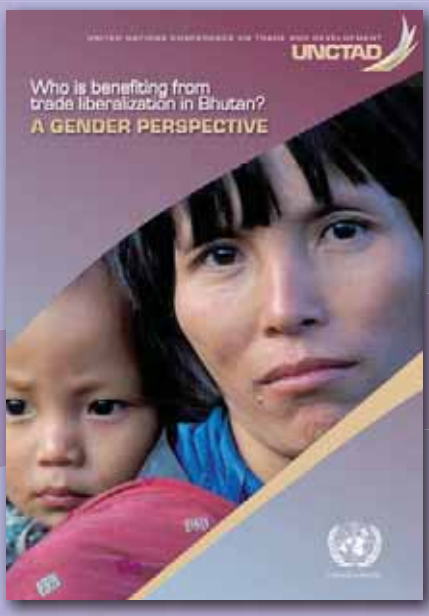
In 1988, UNCTAD initiated the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries, a preferential trade agreement among developing country members of the Group of 77 and China. The third round of negotiations, the Sao Paulo Round, was concluded in 2010.

competitive advantage



UNCTAD assists countries in aligning their competition laws and policies with the United Nations Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices. It also supports voluntary peer reviews of competition policies. Since 2005, such reviews have been conducted for Benin, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Senegal, Tunisia and for the West African Economic and Monetary Union.

UNCTAD provides substantive support to help countries adjust their policy regimes in line with World Trade Organization agreements while taking into account their own development objectives and strategies.



gender

Through country case studies and national workshops, UNCTAD is mapping the role of women in the economy and testing different methodologies to gauge the impact of trade policy on women's well-being and economic empowerment.

fashion

music

UNCTAD is developing a long-term strategy to help developing countries realize their vast potential in the creative industries.

A global databank on creative products was launched in 2008 to help artists and craftspeople find markets for their work and help governments make decisions that expand trade in creative products.

jewellery

books



UNCTAD assesses the potential and challenges of developing a path for an ocean economy, including ensuring the sustainable livelihood of coastal populations.

ocean economy

Such potential is underutilized or threatened. This entails, for example, the use of currents and winds as a source of energy, the use of algae and other marine species in the production of food and cosmetics, and the dissemination of sustainable fisheries practices.



climate change

Launched in 1992, the BioTrade Initiative provides a platform for trade and investment in natural products and for sharing experiences on sustainable biodiversity.

The Initiative links local smallholders and producers with businesses abroad to develop export opportunities and ensures that local communities benefit from such arrangements.



Anticipating worldwide efforts to promote environmental sustainability and address climate change without limiting economic growth, UNCTAD argues that new economic opportunities lie in developed and developing countries alike in sustainably sourcing environmentally friendly goods and services, ensuring fair and equitable benefit sharing, and pursuing low-carbon and climate-resilient development policies and strategies according to the needs, resources and circumstances of each country.

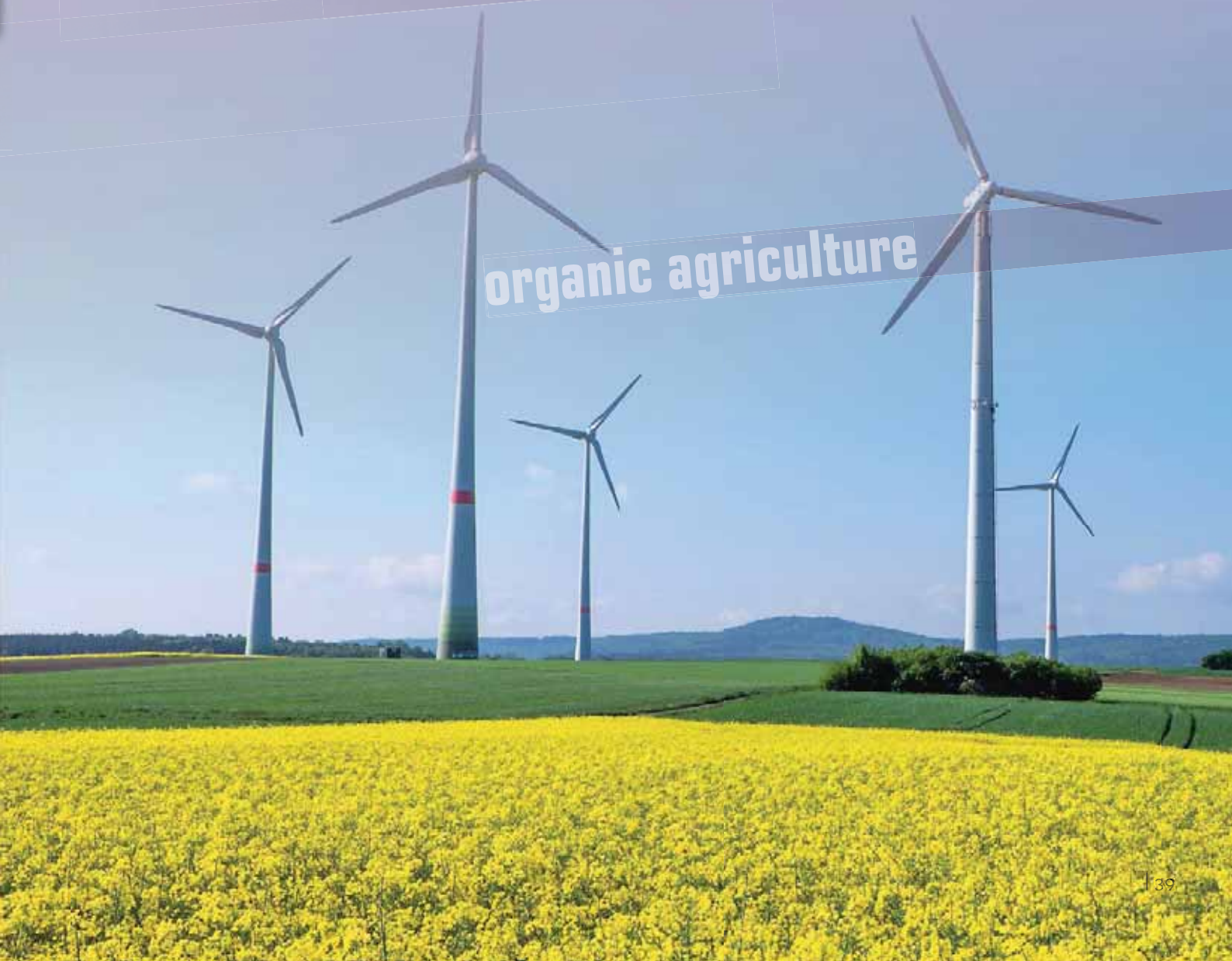
In regard to the latter, National Green Export Reviews support the identification of green products with export potential that can be developed by interested countries. Similarly, UNCTAD promotes the production of organic agricultural products and their commercialization, including through exports.

biotrade

UNCTAD raises awareness and advocacy on renewable energy sources, including biofuels, in meeting clean energy needs.

renewable energy

organic agriculture



facilitating trade, investment and technologies



Set up in 1996, the UNCTAD Port Training Programme provides training and support to developing countries so that they can manage their ports efficiently and competitively, and ultimately increase trade flows and foster economic development. This programme brings together public, private and international entities, creating a port network in which port operators can share expertise and human resource development in port communities can be strengthened.

The work of UNCTAD on maritime law and transport has led to several international agreements, including the following:

- United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences, 1974
- United Nations Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea (Hamburg Rules), 1978
- United Nations Convention on Conditions for Registration of Ships, 1986
- UNCTAD Minimum Standards for Shipping Agents, 1988
- UNCTAD Model Clauses on Marine Hull and Cargo Insurance, 1989
- UNCTAD/International Chamber of Commerce Rules for Multimodal Transport Documents, 1992
- International Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages, 1993
- International Convention on Arrest of Ships, 1999

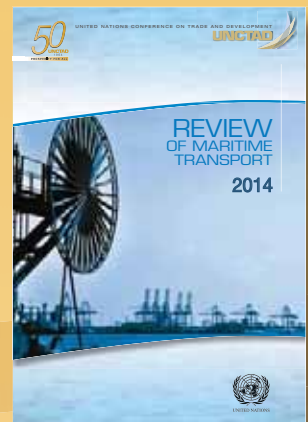
transport



customs

UNCTAD provides support to developing countries on trade facilitation and transport logistics.

UNCTAD developed a computerized customs management system called the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA), which operates in more than 94 developing countries and territories, 38 of which are least developed countries.



capacity-building

In supporting institutional capacity-building in the Palestinian economy, UNCTAD conducted a cost-benefit analysis of re-routing Palestinian merchandise trade, which currently goes through Israeli ports and regional port facilities in Egypt and Jordan.

UNCTAD is the leading United Nations organization for the interrelated treatment of Palestinian trade, finance and economic development. It was also the first international organization to systematically examine challenges in trade and development facing the economy in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Its activities include policy-oriented research and analysis, as well as technical cooperation projects and support for building the capacities required for the development of the Palestinian private and public sector.





UNCTAD produces science, technology and innovation policy reviews to help developing countries assess their national science and technology systems and policy frameworks, and identify strategies designed to make their enterprises more innovative.

The UNCTAD TrainForTrade programme strengthens knowledge and networks that promote transparency and good practices. It encourages the adoption of development-oriented trade policies to reduce poverty and promotes information and communications technologies, and innovative thinking to boost the performance of international trade players.

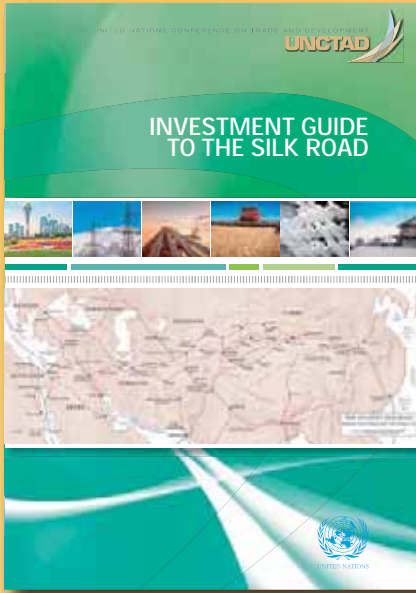
UNCTAD holds regional courses on the international economic agenda for policymakers and academics. The curriculum focuses on regional characteristics to help contribute to the formulation of national trade-related policies and international negotiating positions.

distance learning



The UNCTAD Virtual Institute works with academic institutions to strengthen their teaching and research capacities on trade and development, and to increase the policy relevance of their work. By 2014, the Institute had grown into a true global academic network encompassing 105 universities and research centres in 52 countries.

database



The online International Investment Agreements Programme allows for exchanges between experts and collective learning on topics of crucial importance for investment policymakers.

UNCTAD has launched an online Investment Guide to provide investors with up-to-date information on costs, wages, laws, procedures and contracts.

The UNCTAD e-regulations programme has enabled businesses to get started in 23 countries by introducing electronic business registration, reducing the costs and time it takes to set up a business by up to 70 per cent.

e-regulations

Since the early 1990s UNCTAD has been collecting and sharing information on trade, tariffs and non-tariff measures through its TRAINS database to provide more information and better access to the database for policymakers, exporters and researchers. UNCTAD, with other international organizations, has established a partnership known as the Transparency in Trade initiative.

entrepreneurship

UNCTAD trains and assists entrepreneurs and supports fledgling businesses to grow through its Empretec programme.

Established in 36 countries, the programme has trained more than 340,000 entrepreneurs. After training, the sales and profitability of small and medium-sized enterprises grew by about one third; roughly the same proportion of new jobs was created as a result. The Empretec Women in Business Awards, which have been held biennially since 2008, showcase women entrepreneurs in developing countries who have been successful in growing their businesses and contributing to development.



secretaries- general



**Mukhisa
Kituyi**
Kenya

Since September 2013

Mukhisa Kituyi was born in Bungoma District, western Kenya, in 1956. He served three terms in the Kenyan Parliament beginning in 1992. He was the country's Minister for Trade and Industry from 2002 to 2007 and was extensively engaged with regional and continental integration issues and negotiations on the multilateral trading system.

Immediately prior to becoming Secretary-General, he served as Chief Executive of the Kenya Institute of Governance, a think tank and advocacy organization based in Nairobi.

Since 2011, Mr. Kituyi has also served as a fellow of the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Kituyi was a researcher at the Christian Michelsen Institute of Norway from 1986 to 1989 and Programme Director of the African Centre for Technology Studies in Nairobi from 1990 to 1992.

Mr. Kituyi holds a doctorate (1989) and a Master of Philosophy (1986) from the University of Bergen, Norway. Previously, he studied political science and international relations at the University of Nairobi and Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in 1982.



**Supachai
Panitchpakdi**
Thailand

2005–2013

Born in 1946, Supachai Panitchpakdi received his master's degree and doctorate from the Netherlands School of Economics. In 1973, he completed his doctoral dissertation on human resource planning and development under the supervision of the first Nobel laureate in economics.

Prior to his first term as Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Supachai Panitchpakdi served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Commerce of Thailand, in which capacity he successfully coordinated his country's response to the Asian financial crisis of the mid-1990s.

He was Director-General of the World Trade Organization from September 2002 to August 2005.

At UNCTAD, Mr. Panitchpakdi ensured the prioritization and reinforcement of the Organization's research agenda, the consolidation and better focusing of its technical cooperation programmes, a revamping of the intergovernmental machinery, and improved cooperation and coordination with other parts of the United Nations system.



Rubens Ricupero
Brazil

1995–2004

Rubens Ricupero was born in 1937. A career diplomat, he graduated in 1964 from the Rio Branco Institute, a branch of the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Relations.

Mr. Ricupero was the fifth Secretary-General of UNCTAD. Previously, during a long career with the Brazilian Government, he held the posts of Minister for the Environment and Amazonian Affairs, and of Minister for Finance, where he supervised the launching of the Brazilian economic stabilization programme.

He served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations in Geneva from 1987 to 1991. Between 1989 and 1991, he chaired a wide range committees of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. He also chaired the Finance Committee at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

Rubens Ricupero enjoyed a distinguished academic career in Brazil. He is the author of several books on international relations, economic development problems, international trade and diplomatic history.



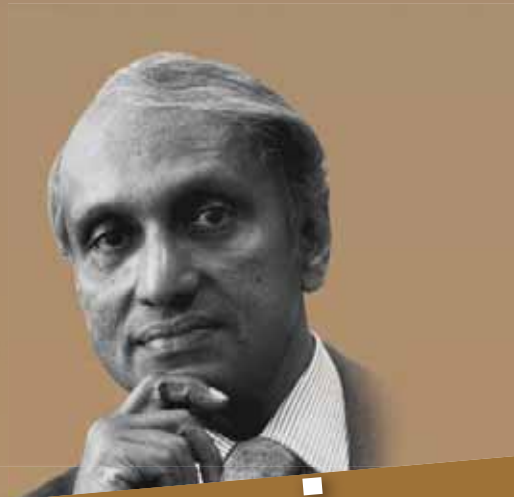
Kenneth K.S. Dadzie
Ghana

1986–1994

Kenneth Dadzie was born in 1930. A diplomat, he held various positions in Ghana's diplomatic service between 1952 and 1985, and on several occasions was granted secondment to take up senior positions at the United Nations Secretariat. He was appointed Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations Office at Geneva, while concurrently assigned as Ambassador to Austria and Switzerland.

Dadzie was appointed to lead UNCTAD in 1986 at a time when multilateralism was being called into question and political commitment towards development was faltering.

He was instrumental in the adoption of the Final Act of UNCTAD VII, which brought about a new consensus on international development cooperation, thereby breaking through the barriers of the North–South divide.



**Gamani
Corea**
Sri Lanka



**Manuel
Pérez Guerrero**
*Bolivarian Republic
of Venezuela*

1974–1984

Gamani Corea attended the University of Ceylon and Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and holds a doctorate in economics from Oxford University. His career in Sri Lanka included positions at the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs, at the Bank of Ceylon, and as Ambassador to the European Economic Community and Benelux countries.

Gamani Corea was a member of the team of experts that helped prepare UNCTAD I. He chaired the UNCTAD Expert Groups on International Monetary Issues in 1965 and 1969, and the United Nations Cocoa Conference in 1972.

Mr. Corea was also a member – and later, chair, from 1972 to 1974 – of the Committee on Development Planning. In April 1974, he was appointed Secretary-General of UNCTAD, a position he held until December 1984.

After leaving UNCTAD, he served as chair of the board of the South Centre. He has also authored several books.

1969–1974

Born in 1911, Manuel Pérez Guerrero began his international career in the mid-1930s with the League of Nations and held various high-level positions in the United Nations system. He served as Secretary-General of UNCTAD from 1969 to 1974.

Pérez Guerrero, a Venezuelan, is remembered in his home country as a high-level government official who helped to lay the foundations of a modern State. He held ministerial positions in finance, planning, mines and hydrocarbons, and international economic affairs.

He was instrumental in the establishment of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and played a leading role in many critical North–South and South–South negotiations, high-level conferences of the Group of 77, and the elaboration and adoption of the Caracas Programme of Action on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries.



Raúl Prebisch

Argentina

1964–1969

Born in 1901, Raúl Prebisch worked as a professor of economic policy at the National University of Buenos Aires from 1923 to 1948. During this period, he also held several positions in the Argentine public sector, namely Deputy Director of the Department of Statistics (1925–1927), Director of Economic Research at the National Bank of Argentina (1927–1930), Under-Secretary of Finance (1930–1932) and Director-General of the Central Bank (1935–1948).

Mr. Prebisch was Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean from 1950 to 1963, and Secretary-General of the UNCTAD from 1964 to 1969.

He is known for his work in international and development economics, his vast contributions to the efforts of the United Nations to achieve a fairer international economic order, and his writings.

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