



High-level Round Table: The CFTA: making it work for Africa

Wednesday, 16th December 2015
9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Churchill Ball Room, Hotel Stanley Sarova
Nairobi, Kenya

African countries launched negotiations for the creation of an **African Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA)** in goods and services in June 2015. At the same time, the Tripartite Free Trade Area in goods comprising COMESA, EAC and SADC was launched. WTO MC10 provides a pertinent background in which to hold high-level policy discussions on how the African trade agenda as reflected in the CFTA can be used as a building block for Africa's integration into a strong and development-oriented multilateral trading system (MTS). The following questions will be explored:

- Why is the CFTA central to Africa's more beneficial integration into the MTS and how can momentum in this process be built in light of the situation in global trade talks.
- How could CFTA negotiations on liberalization of goods become a catalyst for boosting intra-African trade in goods and enhancing Africa's integration into the global economy?
- What approach and options to the liberalization of trade in services under the CFTA would be best for boosting intra-African trade in services, and build upon African countries multilateral commitments?

Key note address

Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of UNCTAD

Ms. Amina Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Kenya (tbc)

Followed by interactive discussion

Ms. Fatima Haram Acyl, Commissioner of Trade and Industry, AU Commission

Mr. Deodat Maharaj, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General

Honorable Rob Davies, Minister of Trade and Industry, South Africa (tbc)

Honorable Joshua Setipa, Minister of Trade, Republic of Lesotho

Honorable Aloïume Sarr, Ministère du Commerce de l'Entrepreneuriat et du Secteur Informel du Sénégal (tbc)

Honorable Ekwow Spio-Garbrah, Minister of Trade and Industry, Ghana, Ministry of Trade and Industry (tbc)

Mr. John O'Keeffe, President Diageo Africa

Mr. Matanda Wabuye, CEO of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Mr. Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International

Ms. Trudi Hartzberg, Executive Director, TRALAC

Debate moderated by Mr. Miguel Rodriguez, former WTO Deputy Director General

You are cordially invited to attend and actively take part in the discussion.