Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development
Eleventh session
Geneva, Switzerland, 15 and 16 April 2019
Palais des Nations, Room XXVI
Provisional Programme

Monday, 15 April

10–10.30 a.m.: Opening session
Item 1. Election of officers
Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
Opening statement by: Ms. Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

10.30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Item 3. Recent developments, challenges and opportunities in commodity markets
Presenters:
(a) Overview
Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland
Recent trends and outlook in commodity markets

(b) Recent developments and challenges in commodity markets: Agriculture
Mr. Faouzi Gsouma, Minister Counselor, Trade and Development Policy, Permanent Delegation of the African Union to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva
African Union Commodity Strategy
Mr. Denis Drechsler, Project Manager, Agricultural Market Information System Secretariat, Rome, Italy
Enhancing market transparency and policy coordination
Ms. Katia Covarrubias, Economist, Trade and Market Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy
The outlook for global food and agricultural markets
Mr. Laurent Pipitone, Consultant and Director, Co-founder, FarmBridge International, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
The state and future of the cocoa and coffee markets
Mr. Issa Idrissa Maiga, Deputy Director of External Trade of Mali
Trends in the Malian cotton market

Interactive discussion
1–3 p.m.: Lunch break

3–6 p.m.

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

(c) Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets: Minerals, ores, metals and energy

Presenters:

Mr. Guillaume Albasini, Energy and Mining Analyst, Switzerland

*Trends in minerals, ores and metals with a focus on lithium, cobalt, nickel, graphite, manganese and nickel*

Mr. Itthilith Ngangnouvong, Director of Trade in Goods Division, Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic

*Mining in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, economic growth and price fluctuation*

Mr. Hayk V. Hovhannisyan, Trade Representative of Armenia to the Swiss Confederation

*The global market of solar energy*

Mr. Hector Hurtado, Financial Analyst, Petroleum Studies Department, The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Vienna, Austria

*Recent trends in the global oil markets*

Mr. Rouben Indjikian, Professor of Management and Economics, Lecturer in Commodities and Energy, Webster University, Geneva, Switzerland

*Oil market developments and prospects: A geostrategic perspective*

Interactive discussion

6–7.30 p.m.: Networking session (by invitation)
Delegates Restaurant
Building A, 8th floor
Tuesday, 16 April
10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Item 4. Managing commodity price risk in commodity-dependent developing countries

**Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza**, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

*Managing commodity price risk in commodity-dependent developing countries*

(a) *Hedging in commodity-dependent developing countries*

Presenters:

**Mr. Yves Jégourel**, Maître de Conférences HDR, Université de Bordeaux, Bordeaux, France

*Commodity price risk management: cotton and other commodities*

**Mr. Darren Cooper**, International Grains Council (IGC), London, United Kingdom

*An overview of IGC’s price information system and market transparency*

**Mr. Guillaume Albasini**, Energy and Mining Analyst, Switzerland

*Risk management in the minerals, ores and metals sector: Stakes and strategies for producing countries*

**Mr. Amir Lebdioui**, Ph. D Candidate, Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

*The management of resource revenues for diversification: introducing new tools and approaches*

**Mr. Eric Adam**, Directeur des relations institutionnelles du Groupe Carrefour, France

*Contract farming as a price stabilization scheme*

**Mr. Robert Skidmore**, Chief of Sector and Enterprise Competitiveness, International Trade Centre, Geneva, Switzerland

*Risk differentiation along commodity value chains*

Interactive discussion
1–3 p.m.: Lunch break

3–5.30 p.m.: Item 4. Managing commodity price risk in commodity-dependent developing countries (continued)

(b) Commodity price management strategies: Some case studies

Presenters:

**H.E. Ms. Athaliah Lesiba Molokomme**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Permanent Representative of Botswana

*The experience of Botswana with natural resource governance and value addition strategy*

**H. E. Mr. Zénon Mukongo Ngay**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of Congo

*Reforms in the mining sector: The case of the Democratic Republic of the Congo*

**Ms. Daniah A Orkoubi**, Head of Economic Reports Department, Ministry of Economy and Planning, Saudi Arabia

*Saudi economic growth strategy on the face of oil price uncertainty*

**Ms. Bla Josee Charlotte Eba**, Lecturer, University of the West of Scotland and member, Centre for African Research on Enterprise and Economic Development, Glasgow, United Kingdom

*Managing commodity price volatility: Contrasting Côte d’Ivoire with Ethiopia*

**Mr. John Struthers**, Professor and Director, Centre for African Research on Enterprise and Economic Development, University of the West of Scotland, United Kingdom

*Welfare effects of commodity price volatility. Should volatility always be corrected? Applications to coffee producers in India and Ethiopia*

**Mr. Andrey Kuleshov**, Strategy and Development Adviser, Common Fund for Commodities, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

*How impact investment reduces risk price volatility or does not concentrate this risk on producers*

Interactive discussion

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

5.30–6 p.m.: Item 5. Adoption of the report of the meeting

Closing

* * * * * *

Contacts:

Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Chief, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities UNCTAD, janvier.nkurunziza@unctad.org

Ms. Claudine Sigam, Coordinator of the Programme, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, c.sigam@un.org

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

Ms. Catherine Katongola, Tel 41 22 917 1648; catherine.katongola@unctad.org

Mr. Taro Boel, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, taro.boel@unctad.org