



Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development

10 – 12 October 2022

Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Provisional Programme

Monday, 10 October 2022

10:00 – 13:00

10:00 – 10.30 Opening session

Opening statements by Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary General, UNCTAD

Item 1: Election of officers

Chair: H.E. Mrs. Maimuna Kibenga Tarishi, Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations Office in Geneva and Vienna.

Vice Chair-cum-Rapporteur: H.E. Mr. José Roberto Sánchez-Fung, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the WTO and UNCTAD

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

10:30 – 13:00

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. Alexander Karavaytsev, International Grains Council (IGC), London, UK

Recent developments in the cereals market

Mr. Gerardo Pataconi, International Coffee Organization (ICO), London, UK

Recent trends in the coffee market

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

Recent developments for Sri Lanka's agriculture exports

Ms. Li Lan, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR), China

Developments in the market for bamboo

Mr. Rene Araujo-Enciso, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy

The outlook for global food and agricultural markets

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break

Monday, 10 October 2022

15:00 – 18:00

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 markets*

Presenters:

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

The changing market for strategic minerals

Dr. Nicholas Woolley, Expert on commodities and macroeconomic risks, Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF), Paris, France

Recent developments in the market for precious metals

Mr. Andrew Walker, Vice President, Global Gas Centre, & V.P. LNG Strategy and Communication, Cheniere, London, United Kingdom

The emerging global gas outlook

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

The changing market for energy

Ms. Toril Bosoni, Head of the Oil Markets Division, International Energy Agency, Paris, France

Recent developments in the oil market

Contacts:

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Commodities Branch Website: <https://unctad.org/topic/commodities>

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Tuesday 11, October 2022

10:00 – 13:00

Item 4: Pathways to economic diversification

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

Thematic presentation: Pathways to economic diversification in CDDCs

Presenters:

(a) Product and export diversification

Mr. Stefan Csordas, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

Key ingredients of a successful diversification strategy

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

The imperative for on-site value addition

(b) Diversification experiences

Dr. Krishna Chikhuri, Senior Agricultural Policy and Programme Development Officer, Ministry of Agro-Industry, and Food Security, Port-Louis, Mauritius

Mauritius diversification away from strong dependence on the export of sugar

Ms. Suvdmaa Munkhzaya, International Consultant based in Geneva

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

Mr. Emile Osumba, Finance and investment expert, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

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

Mr. Mohammad A Alobaid, Assistant Deputy for Consumer Protection, Ministry of Commerce, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Saudi Efforts to Foster Sustainable and Resilient Agri-Food Systems

Mr. Andrey Kuleshov, Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Investments for economic diversification: ESG transparent reporting

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break

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Tuesday 11, October 2022

15:00 – 17:00

Item 4: Pathways to economic diversification *(continued)*

(c) *Diversification for food security*

Presenters:

H.E. Mr. José Roberto Sánchez-Fung, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the WTO and UNCTAD

Diversification strategy: experience from the Dominican Republic

Mr. Carlos Razo, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

The state of developing countries' food import-dependence

Mr. Ralf Peters, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

Export restrictions as a barrier to export diversification

Dr. 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

Ms. Steffany Bermudez, Policy Analyst, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Montreal, Canada

Adopting VSS to increase food security through the production and trade of staple crops: the case of the East African Community

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17:00 – 18:00

Book presentation

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

Presentation of the publication titled "Commodity Markets: Evolution, Challenges, and Policies" edited by John Baffes and Peter Nagle

Followed by interactive discussion

18:00 – 19:30

Networking Session (by invitation)

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Wednesday 12, October 2022

10:00 – 13:00

Potential contribution of bamboo to sustainable development

10:00 – 10:15 **Opening session**

Opening statements: **Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza**, Officer-in-Charge of the Commodities Branch, Division on international trade and commodities, UNCTAD

Chair: **H.E. Mr. Salomon Eheth**, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cameroon to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

10:15 – 10:30 **Report presentation:** *Commodities at a Glance: Special issue on bamboo*

Presenter: **Mr. Rachid Amui**, Economic Affairs Officer, DITC, UNCTAD

10:30 – 11:50 **Panel discussion**

Presenters:

Mr. Arjan van der Vegte, MOSO's Research & Development Manager, Moso Bamboo, The Netherlands

Value addition to raw bamboo: The transformation process and possible end products, e.g., engineered bamboo

Pr. Luisa Molari, Department of Civil, Chemical, Environment and Materials Engineering, University of Bologna

Bamboo as an alternate building material

Mr. René Kaam, Director, INBAR Central Africa Regional Office (CARO), Cameroon

The role of bamboo in environmental management - carbon sequestration, protecting biodiversity and eco systems, restoration of degraded lands

Dr. Fei Benhua, Capacity Building Manager, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) secretariat, China

Experience from China

11 :50 – 13:00 **Contributions from the floor**

13:00 – 15:00 **Lunch break**

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Wednesday 12, October 2022

15:00 – 17:30

Phosphate fertilizers and food security

Session 1: The new landscape of phosphates

15:00 – 16:15 Panel discussion

Presenters:

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

Overview and context

Mr. Romain Perez, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

Hard facts from the market for phosphates: main importers, main exporters, main uses including fertilizers for agriculture and electric batteries for the 4th industrial revolution

Mr. Michael Wurmser, Norge Mining London, United Kingdom

Phosphates in Norway (analysis of recent new deposits findings)

Ms. Laura Cross, International Fertilizer Association, United Kingdom

The phosphate market, its link to food security, and our forecast of consumption globally and in Africa in the next 2-5 years

Session 2: Scaling up phosphate fertilizers utilization in developing countries

16:15 – 17:30 Panel discussion

Presenters:

Dr. Majumdar, DG, 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 Ajjiti, Groupe Office Chérifien des Phosphates (OCP), Kingdom of Morocco

Facilitating the access of African farmers to phosphate products

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

Fertilizers for food security: The experience of Sri Lanka

17:30 – 18:00

Item 5: Closing of the meeting and adoption of the report of the meeting

Ms. Maria Teresa Da Piedade Moreira, Officer-in-Charge, UNCTAD Division on International Trade and Commodities

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