Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development
9 – 11 October 2023, Room XXVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Programme

Monday, 9 October 2023

10.00 – 10.30 a.m. Opening session

Item 1: Election of officers

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Opening remarks: Mr. Pedro Manuel Moreno, Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD (by video)

Item 3: Recent developments, challenges, and opportunities in commodity markets

10.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

(a) Overview: Recent trends and outlook in commodity markets

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

(b) Recent developments and challenges in commodity markets: Agriculture

- The outlook for global food and agricultural markets
  Mr. René Araujo-Enciso, Economist, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy

- Recent developments in the cereals market
  Mr. Peter Clubb, Market Analyst, International Grains Council (IGC), London, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK)

- Development in the cotton market
  Mr. Matthew Looney, Data Scientist, International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), Washington D.C., United States of America (video)

- Development in the market for bamboo
  Ms. Li Lan, Director of Host Country Affairs, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR), China

Interactive discussion

1.00 – 3 p.m. Lunch break
Monday, 9 October 2023

3.00 – 4.30 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

- Market updates on the strategic minerals
  Mr. Guillaume Albasini, Energy and Mining Analyst, Vevey, Switzerland

- Critical minerals: from market trends to on-site value addition
  Ms. Isabelle Ramdoo, Deputy Director, Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals, and Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland

Interactive discussion

4.30 – 6.00 p.m. Recent developments and new challenges in commodity markets: Energy

- Traditional energy markets: Broad perspective on energy markets
  Mr. Alexander Bressers, Demand Senior Analyst, International Energy Agency, Paris, France

- The emerging challenges and opportunities in the global gas market
  Mr. Andrew Walker, Vice Chairman, Global Gas Centre, Geneva, Switzerland

- Renewable energy
  Ms. Elizabeth Press, Director, Planning and Development Support, International Renewable Energy Agency, Bonn, Germany

- Recent development in oil markets
  Mr. Thierry Bros, Professor, Sciences Po University, Paris, France

Interactive discussion

6.00 – 7.30 p.m. Networking Session (by invitation)
Tuesday 10, October 2023

10.00 a.m.– 1.00 p.m.
Item 4: Managing commodity price volatility in commodity-dependent developing countries

Mr. Clovis J. Freire, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

**Thematic presentations:** Managing commodities price and income volatility in Commodity Dependent Developing Countries (CDDCs)

(a) *Global management*

- *Navigating Volatility: Strengthening Resilience in Commodity-Driven Economies*
  Mr. Jean-François Casanova, Strategic Risk Management, Paris, France

- *Hedging techniques for minerals*
  Mr. Guillaume Albasini, Energy and Mining Analyst, Vevey, Switzerland

(b) *Experiences in managing commodities price stability:*

- *How developing countries manage the tension between exporting their energy resources to gain foreign currency or using them domestically to strengthen the national economy*
  Mr. Ben Asante, CEO, Ghana Gas, Accra, Ghana

- *Ghana-Côte d’Ivoire: Cocoa OPEC and its implications for price and income volatility*
  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, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK)

- *The role of commodity exchanges in the management of price and income volatility: the case of Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Africa (ACE)*
  Mr. Kristian Schach Moller, Chief Executive Officer, Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Africa, Lilongwe, Malawi

Interactive discussion

1.00 – 3.00 p.m. Lunch break
Tuesday 10, October 2023

3.00 – 4.30 p.m.

Item 4: Managing commodity price volatility in commodity-dependent developing countries (continued)

(c) Policies to reduce price and income volatility

- Stocks for food security as response to excessive price volatility
  Mr. Franck Galtier, Researcher (economist), CIRAD, UMR MOISA, Montpellier, France

- Volatility experience in the gas sector: new developments and technologies and their impact on the price volatility
  Mr. Thierry Bros, Global Gas Centre, Geneva, Switzerland

4.30 – 6.00 p.m.

- Policies to reduce the impact of commodity price volatility on food security: The experience of Sri Lanka
  Ms. Gilma Dahanayake, Acting Director of Commerce, Department of Commerce, Additional Secretary (International Trade), Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security, Sri Lanka

- Volatility in price commodities: the case of Democratic Republic of the Congo
  Mr. Julio Kunda Muya, Acting Head, Division in charge of commodities, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

- The role of local commodity exchanges in managing commodities price volatility: The case of Nigerian Commodities exchange (NCX)
  Mr. Kingsley Obinna Omeihe, Senior Lecturer in Economics, School of Business and Creative Industries, the West of Scotland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK).
Wednesday 11, October 2023

10.00 – 11.30 a.m.
Panel on inclusive diversification

- **Highlights of the UNCTAD Commodity and Development Report 2023: Inclusive Diversification and Energy Transition**
  
  Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Head, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

- **Ensuring inclusiveness and just transition**
  
  Ms. Sofia Dominguez, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

Panel discussion inclusive diversification:

- **Ms. Georgina Marcela Hurtado Gutiérrez**, Head of the Department of International Commodity Organizations (OIPB), Ministry of Development, Industry and Commerce, Nicaragua
- **Mr. Damilola Olawuyi**, Chair of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights
- **Mr. Calvin Manduna**, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, Washington, United States of America
- **Mr. Bassolawoè Koka**, Director of Local Products Processing, General Directorate of Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Local Consumption, Togolese Republic
- **Ms. Yolanda Drakapoulos**, General Manager, Jamaica Bauxite Institute, Kingston, Jamaica

Interactive discussion

11.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.
Panel on diversification and energy transition

- **Diversification of CDDCs and carbon emission**
  
  Mr. Janvier Nkurunziza, Head, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

- **Access to energy in Sub Saharan Africa**
  
  Mr. Rachid Amui, Economic Affairs Officer, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities (DITC), UNCTAD
Panel discussion on diversification and energy transition:

- **Mr. Rudy Van Beurden**, Senior Vice President Public Affairs FluxSwiss, Zurich, Switzerland
- **Mr. André Pierre Mattei**, Director of SENAI Innovation Institute for TIC, Vice-President of FLIC S.A., Founder of Grapehawk, Brazil
- **Ms. Christina Christopoulou**, Business and Technology Partner, Gas Segment, Lloyd’s Register, Athens, Greece
- **Dr. Kostas Andriosopoulos**, Professor, Audencia Business School, and CEO, Akuo Energy, Greece

Interactive discussion

1.00 – 3.00 p.m.  Lunch break

3.00 – 5.30 p.m.
Panel on green industrial policies

*Green industrial policies for sustainable and inclusive diversification of CDDCs: Highlights of the Commodities and Development Report 2023: Inclusive Diversification and Energy Transition* (UNCTAD/DITC/COM/2023/2)

- **Mr. Clovis Freire**, Commodities Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva, Switzerland

Panel discussion on green industrial policies focusing on the impact of decarbonization policies on agriculture:

- **Mr. Bas Geerts**, Head of Sustainability, CEFETRA, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Panel discussion on green industrial policies:

- **Ms. Ilaria Espa**, Associate Professor, International Economic Law, Law Institute, Faculty of Economics, Lugano, Università della Svizzera Italiana
- **Ms. Fatima-Zohra Yaagoub**, Impact Strategy Officer, Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- **Mr. Amir Lebdioui**, Associate Professor, Department of International Development, University of Oxford, Oxford, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Interactive discussion

5.30 – 6.00 p.m.  Closing plenary session

**Concluding remarks:** **Ms. Miho Shirotori**, Director ad interim, UNCTAD Division on International Trade and Commodities

**Item 5. Adoption of the report of the meeting**
Contacts:

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