

Launch Event

## Harnessing Intellectual Property Rights for Innovation, Development and Economic Transformation in LDCs

29 January 2024, 11:00 - 12:00 (Geneva time)

The world's least developed countries (LDCs) face severe structural constraints and development challenges, many of which have been compounded by the multiple crises besetting the global economy. Innovation and technological upgrading can play a central role in accelerating the economic growth and structural transformation necessary to tackle these challenges in LDCs, but they first need to build critical minimum levels of productive capacity and technological capabilities.

This webinar will officially launch a joint report by the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNCTAD that explores how LDCs can use intellectual property protection strategically to stimulate innovation and development, and craft regimes and systems for intellectual property rights that help to build productive capacities, enable technological upgrading, boost trade and investment and drive economic transformation.

### Agenda

Item	Speaker
Welcome (4 minutes)	Paul Akiwumi (moderator) Director, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD
<i>Harnessing Intellectual Property Rights for Innovation, Development and Economic Transformation in LDCs: Reflections and highlights from the Commonwealth-UNCTAD joint report</i> (20 minutes)	The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland KC Secretary-General of the Commonwealth  Rebeca Grynspan Secretary-General of UNCTAD
Discussant (7 minutes)	Daren Tang Director General, WIPO
Q&A (25 minutes)	Interactive discussion