



MULTI-YEAR EXPERT MEETING ON TRADE, SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT
1–2 May 2019

Room XXVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Wednesday, 1 May 2019	
9.20–9.50 a.m.	Morning coffee (outside room XXVI)
10–10.40 a.m.	<p>Opening plenary session</p> <p>Item 1: Election of officers Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work</p> <p>Opening statement by Ms. Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD</p> <p>Item 3: Enhancing productive capacity through services Presentation of the background note by Ms. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Director, Division of International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD</p>
10.40 a.m.– 1 p.m.	<p>Item 3: Enhancing productive capacity through services</p> <p><i>Session 1. The relationship between services and productive capacity</i></p> <p>Increasing productive capacity could assist developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Goals on poverty reduction, sustainable economic growth, reducing inequality and increasing the exports from developing countries and doubling that of LDCs. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which globally represent about 95 per cent of firms, 50 per cent of output and 60 per cent of employment, face challenges such as higher business costs compared with large firms. Along with its rising importance as a stand-alone economic sector in a country, the relevance of the services sector to economic performance relies on its interactions with other economic activities. Services are often bundled with goods and are contributing increasingly to the value addition in other economic sectors, partly due to “servicification” trends in domestic production and international trade, especially in the context of global value chains.</p> <p><i>Issues for discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the relationship between services and productive capacity in a country? Is there a linkage between actual services development and enhancement of productive capacity? • How can services support building key industrial capabilities, including the creative industry? • How can services help SMEs enhance productive capacity? What could be done by Governments to support SMEs? <p><i>Panellists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Christian Pauletto, Professor, International University in Geneva • Mr. Antonio Andreoni, Senior Lecturer in Economics, Department of Economics, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London • Mr. Murat A. Yülek, Rector of Ostim Technical University, Turkey • Mr. Sung Duk Kim, Managing Director, Korea National Ppuri Industry Centre,

	<p>Korea Institute of Industrial Technology, Republic of Korea</p> <p>Interactive debate</p>
3–6 p.m.	<p>Item 3: Enhancing productive capacity through services</p> <p><i>Session 2. Increase services provision to enhance productive capacity</i></p> <p>Services have become the major sector in nearly all countries. While the services' share in output in 2016 reached 76 per cent in developed countries, it was 56 per cent in developing countries and below 50 per cent in LDCs, implying considerable potential for the latter two groups to develop their services sector. Most of these countries are experiencing persistent deficits in services trade. This indicates, on one hand, the need to increase their domestic services provision capacity and reduce market barriers for their services exports and, on the other hand, the usefulness of importing services to make up for the shortage of critical services provision within their countries.</p> <p><i>Issues for discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the linkage of services be realized? • What policies, regulatory and institutional measures support the improvement of domestic provision of these services? • In which way can trade in services support the contributions of services to enhancing a country's overall productive capacity? <p><i>Panellists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Elva Williams-Richards, Senior Vice-President, Finance, Corporate Planning, Information Services and Materials Management, Port Authority of Kingston, Jamaica • Mr. Saston Muzenda, Director, Inland Waters Control, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructural Development, Zimbabwe • Mr. Olutunmbi Idowu, Chief Compliance Officer and Global Head of Government Engagements, Digital Software Solutions • Mr. Mohamed El Hacene, Director, Economic Development and Integration Division, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (videoconference) <p>Interactive debate</p>
Thursday, 2 May 2019	
9.20–9.50 a.m.	Morning coffee (outside room XXVI)
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	<p>Item 3: Enhancing productive capacity through services</p> <p><i>Session 3. Digital services and productive capacity enhancement</i></p> <p>The world is experiencing a rapid digital revolution. In a digitalized world, services are becoming more prominent and making the traditional boundaries between goods and services in the production process increasingly blurred. As a result, digital services, enabled by digital technology, are influencing the productive capacity of a country more and more. For example, digital services are driving the increasing digitization of manufacturing.</p> <p><i>Issues for discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are digital services? • What is the development trend of digital services, including creative services? • How can digital services enhance a country's capacity in producing goods and services including creative services? • In what way can regulation help a country reap the developmental benefits of digital services?

	<p><i>Panellists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kern Alexander, Chair for Law and Finance and Professor of Banking Regulation, University of Zurich, Switzerland • Mr. John Drummond, Head of Trade in Services Division, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development • Ms. Lee Tuthill, Counsellor, Division of Trade in Services and Investment, World Trade Organization • Ms. Devi Ariyani, Executive Director, Indonesia Services Dialogue, Indonesia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive debate
3–5.30 p.m.	<p>Item 3: Enhancing productive capacity through services</p> <p><i>Session 4. Promoting the enhancing role of services in productive capacity through international cooperation</i></p> <p>Developing countries are in general net importers of services, implying that there is gap between supply and demand of services in their domestic markets. The gap is particularly evident in major services sectors, including telecommunications, transport, energy and financial services, as well as professional services such as engineering services, which are key inputs to the production of goods and services. This gap needs to be addressed to allow services to play a role in enhancing these countries' productive capacity. International cooperation including South–South cooperation can be useful in this regard.</p> <p><i>Issues for discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the particular challenges for developing countries to enhance their productive capacity? • To what extent can international cooperation, including South–South cooperation, promote the services sector's contribution to productive capacity development in developing countries and LDCs? • What policies and measures should be taken by host and home countries to encourage such international cooperation? <p><i>Panellists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dato' Ku Jaafar Ku Shaari, Secretary-General, Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation, Turkey • Mr. Lucian Cernat, Chief Economist, Directorate-General for Trade, European Commission • Mr. Alvaro Espinoza, Deputy Secretary-General, Latin American Integration Association • Ms. Trudi Hartzenberg, Executive Director, Trade Law Centre, South Africa (videoconference) <p>Interactive debate</p>
5.30–6 p.m.	<p>Closing plenary session</p> <p>Item 4: Adoption of the report of the meeting</p>