

Expert Meeting on Social Inclusion Programmes and Their Impact on Sustainable and Inclusive Development and Growth

Geneva, Palais des Nations, Salle XXVI, 27–28 November 2014

Programme

Thursday, 27 November 2014

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Item 1 Election of officers

Opening statement: Mr. Petko Draganov, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Item 3 Social inclusion programmes and their impact on sustainable and inclusive development and growth

SESSION I: Productive capacities, structural transformation and social inclusion

Main issues for discussion: How can developing countries create and support more inclusive development pathways? What are the linkages between structural transformation, employment creation and inclusive growth? What is the role of the developmental State in building productive capacities, and does the choice of technology matter? How can developing countries better integrate social protection policy into national development strategies?

Introduction: Mr. Pierre Encontre, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD

Panellists:

- Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Director, Social Protection Department, International Labour Organization, Geneva
- Ms. Katja Hujo, Research Coordinator, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, Geneva
- Mr. Amson Sibanda, Senior Social Affairs Officer, Division for Social Policy and Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, New York
- Mr. Christoph Hermann, Lecturer, University of Vienna

Interactive debate

3 p.m.–6 p.m.

Item 3 continued

SESSION II: Social inclusion programmes: Experiences and lessons

Main issues for discussion: What are the important features of effective social inclusion programmes in developing countries? What impact do they have in the domestic economy? What lessons have been learned from implementing these programmes? What programmes have been used to foster production linkages and inclusion of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in the growth process?

Panellists:

- Mr. Ephraim Chirwa, Professor of Economics at Chancellor College, University of Malawi, Lilongwe (Farm input subsidy programmes)
- Mr. Diego Medina Muñoz, Senior Lecturer, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Relevance of social inclusion programmes to tourism development)
- Mr. Ashok Pankaj, Professor, Council for Social Development, New Delhi (Employment guarantee schemes and social inclusion in India)
- Mr. Mario Cimoli, Director, Division on Production, Productivity and Management, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago de Chile (SME policies for structural change and social inclusion)

Interactive debate

- Mr. Ahoro Atchindé Amakoue, Civil Administrator, Ministry of Commerce and Private Sector Development, Lomé (Social inclusion programmes in Togo)
- Ms. Shaza Osman Omer, Counsellor, Ministry of Trade, Khartoum (Social inclusion programmes in the Sudan)

Interactive debate

Friday, 28 November 2014

10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Item 3 continued

SESSION III: Role of finance, gender, informality and leadership in promoting social inclusion

Main issues for discussion: Should social inclusion programmes specifically target vulnerable groups? What are the implications of the growing informality of enterprises and labour for inclusive development? How can leadership secure sufficient support for social inclusion programmes? What are the best practices for providing financial and business development services to help micro, small and medium-sized enterprises grow and thrive?

Panellists:

- Ms. Takyiwaa Manuh, Director, Social Development Policy Division, Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa (Gender and social inclusion programmes)
- Ms. Clare Bishop, Lead Technical Specialist, International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome (Gender and social inclusion)
- Mr. Ebere Onwudiwe, Executive Director, Ken Nnamani Centre for Leadership and Development, Abuja (The importance of leadership in promoting inclusive growth)
- Mr. James Heintz, Associate Director and Research Professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Informality and social inclusion/exclusion)

Interactive debate

SESSION IV: Chair's summary and closing plenary

Item 4 Adoption of the report of the meeting