

Dialogue on Inequality, Poverty and Trade in Africa and the Least Developed Countries

Geneva, Palais des Nations
Room VII
23 September 2025

Programme

23 September 2025, 9 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (CET)
Room VII

9.15–9.45 **Registration**

9.45–10.25 **Opening Session**

Opening Remarks

Remarks by *Mr. Paul Akiwumi*, Director, ALDC, UNCTAD

Remarks by FES representative

Statement by *H.E. Mr. Alaa HEGAZY*, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations Office and Chair of the African Group (tbc)

Statement By *H.E. Mr. Ram Prasad Subedi*, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations and Chair of the LDC Group (tbc)

Statement by *Mr. Niels Annen*, Parliamentary State Secretary, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (tbc)

PART I Inequality, Poverty and Development

Moderator Prof. Franklyn Lisk, University of Warwick, UK

- 10.25–10.40 Regional integration and the challenge of poverty reduction in Africa
Aissatou Diallo, Chief, Office for Africa, ITC, Geneva
- 10.40–10.55 Development cooperation, poverty and inequality reduction in LDCs
Julie Seghers, Team Leader, Poverty and Inequalities, Development Co-operation Directorate, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris
- 10.55–11.10 Interactive discussion
- 11.10–11.25 Sustaining poverty and inequality reduction in Africa and LDCs: the missing link
Patrick Osakwe, Head, Trade, Poverty and Inequalities Branch, UNCTAD
- 11.25–11.40 Combating inequality and poverty: lessons learned from UNCTAD studies
Moritz Meier-Ewert, UNCTAD, Geneva
- 11.40–11.55 Interactive discussion

PART II Case Studies and National Perspectives

Moderator Dr Donald Mmari, Executive Director, REPOA, Tanzania

- 12.10–12.25 Recent initiatives to address poverty and inequality in Uganda
Ramathan Ggoobi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Uganda
- 12.25–12.40 Recent initiatives to address poverty and inequality in Tanzania
Ellykedo Ngonyani, Director of Policy Planning Ministry of Planning and Investment, Tanzania
- 12.40–12.55 Recent initiatives to address poverty and inequality in Cambodia
Representative of the Permanent Mission of Cambodia to UN, Geneva (tbc)
- 12.55–13.20 Interaction discussion
- 13.20–14.30 **Lunch Break**



PART III Policy Action Areas for Inequality and Poverty Reduction

Moderator *H.E. Mr. Ram Prasad Subedi, Chair of the LDC Group at UNCTAD*

- 14.30-14.45 Coherent strategies for reducing poverty and inequality in LDCs
Katja Hujo, Senior Research Coordinator and Head of the Bonn Office, UNRISD
- 14.45-15.00 Labour market issues in inequality and poverty reduction
Helmut Schwarzer, ILO, Geneva
- 15.00-15.20 **Interactive discussion**
- 15.20-15.35 Harnessing gender potential for inclusive development
Nathalie Gahunga, Manager, Gender and Women Empowerment Division, African Development Bank, Abidjan (tbc)
- 15.35-15.50 Making rural development work for poverty reduction
Dominique Burgeon, Director, FAO Liaison Office in Geneva
- 15.50-16.10 Interactive discussion
- 16.10-16.25 Fiscal policies to foster inclusive development
Expert from Oxfam, Geneva (tbc)
- 16.25-16.40 Interactive discussion
- 16.40-17.00 [Closing remarks](#)

