

**Report on Technical Cooperation carried out in 2017**

**to the Working Party on the Strategic Framework  
and the Programme Budget, 75th session**

**4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

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## **A Transforming economies, improving competitiveness**

- 1** National Green Export Reviews
- 2** Non-tariff measures
- 3** Services Policy reviews
- 4** Trade policy framework reviews
- 5** Accession to the WTO

## **B Tackling vulnerabilities, building resilience**

- 6** BioTrade Initiative

## **C Fostering economic efficiency, improving governance**

- 7** Voluntary peer reviews on competition law and policy

## **D Empowering people, investing in their future**

- 8** Trade , Gender and Development Programme

# A Transforming economies, improving competitiveness



## 1 National Green Export Reviews



### Objective

Responding to growing country demand for technical assistance to develop green sectors in order to generate new employment and export opportunities while promoting sustainable development.

- Coconut and cocoa sectors in **Vanuatu**
- Green technology & ecotourism in **Lebanon**
- Bean and coffee sectors in **Madagascar**
- Sesame and leather sectors in **Ethiopia**
- Date and fishery sectors in **Oman**
- Olive, the aromatic and medicinal plant sectors in **Morocco**
- Wine and honey sectors in **Moldova**

**Senegal, Armenia:** Selection of products ongoing

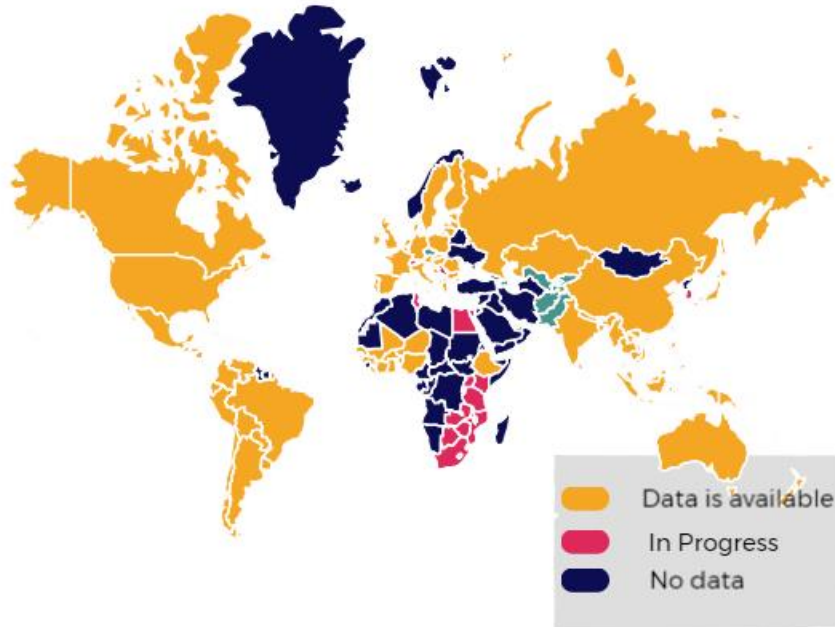
### Maafikiano - Para 76

(m) Support developing countries and countries with economies in transition in diversifying production and exports, including in new sustainable growth areas such as sustainable agriculture.

(n) Support developing countries relying significantly on natural resources exports and facing particular challenges, by encouraging sustainable investment in value addition and the processing of natural resources and productive diversification.

(o) Devise approaches to stimulating economic diversification and promoting higher value added production, including through trade, investment and entrepreneurship ... providing equal economic opportunity for all.

# A Transforming economies, improving competitiveness



- **Online Training** courses  
NTMs data and classification



116 participants from **65 countries**  
+ Africa specific courses: 70 participants

- Face to face Training Courses and Technical Support on NTMs  
**Africa, Asia, Latin-America**

**NTMs Week**  
**25-27 September 2017**

[www.unctad.org/ntms2017](http://www.unctad.org/ntms2017)

## 2 Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs)

UNCTAD works on the entire value chain



- **Regional NTMs Integration Review**  
Comprehensive analysis of NTMs in one region aiming to strengthen integration  
**Mercosur, ECOWAS, ASEAN**
- **Regional Value Chain Analysis**  
On obstacles to trade jointly UNCTAD NTMs and Trade Facilitation units with ITC for CEFTA Region

### Maafikiano - Paras 38

- (e) " Continue its work on the impact of NTMs"
- (r) " Address the trade and development impact of non-tariff barriers; "
- (b) " reducing trade costs " and several paragraphs about "regulatory framework"

# A Transforming economies, improving competitiveness



- SPRs with a state-of-art methodology have been conducted for some **30 countries**  
Including: Bangladesh Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Lesotho, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda, Jamaica, Peru, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Colombia
- New SPRs (2016-2017) Bangladesh, Namibia, Paraguay and ECOWAS
- **MYEM** on trade, services & development
- SPRs are underway for Paraguay & ECOWAS
- Requests for SPRs from Iran, Lao PDR, Bangladesh, Haiti, Pacific Island Forum & OECS
- Assisted CFTA negotiations in services

## 3 Services Policy Reviews



### Objective

To assist developing countries in assessing their services economy and trade and reviewing their existing policy and regulatory frameworks to formulate best-fit services policies, regulatory and institutional frameworks through multi-stakeholder consultations, develop competitive productive capabilities and better engaging in trade negotiations on services

### Maafikiano - Paras 38 (Z), 55 and 76(t)

55(n): Continue and reinforce its work on trade in services

38(z): Continue to provide technical assistance in the area of services policy reviews

# A Transforming economies, improving competitiveness



Follow up on SDG-oriented trade policy frameworks  
**10 countries**

- Exchange of country experiences and lessons learnt was conducted at an **inter-regional level**
- New requests for TPFs, including follow-up requests for TPF implementation in 2016-17 from:  
Zambia, Botswana, Namibia, Iran, Haiti, Tunisia, Mauritius

## 4 Trade Policy Framework Reviews



### Objective

Contribute to the (re)formulation and implementation of national trade policy regimes according a country's own development priorities that are consistent with development imperatives arising from SDGs using multi-stakeholder approaches.

### Maafikiano - Paras 38 and 55

38(z): Continue technical assistance in the area of formulation of TPFs

55(c): Support in the formulation and implementation of national TPFs

# A Transforming economies, improving competitiveness



## 5 WTO Accession

### Objective

UNCTAD technical assistance aims at building in-country human, regulatory, policy and institutional capacities to effectively manage WTO accession negotiations and trade policy reform processes consistent with WTO disciplines while prioritizing development objectives

- UNCTAD has assisted **all acceding LDCs**
- Last year it supported the accession process for Seychelles, Kazakhstan, Liberia and Afghanistan
- UNCTAD took part in Trade Policy Forum for Central Asia and in Regional Dialogue on WTO accessions for the Greater Horn of Africa

- **Pending Requests for assistance on WTO accession and post-accession phase**

Including: Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Liberia, Lebanon, Comoros, Seychelles

### Maafikiano - Para 38

(x) Continue to provide and reinforce its technical assistance before, during and in the follow-up of the process of accession to the World Trade Organization"

# B Tackling vulnerabilities, building resilience



## 6 BioTrade Initiative



OCTOBER 2017

### Objective

To contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through the promotion of trade and investment in BioTrade products and services in line with the objectives and principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

### Maafikiano - Para 76

(q) Promote sustainable trade in biodiversity products and services to strengthen the sustainability of biodiversity and foster sustainable growth, in close cooperation with other relevant agencies where appropriate."

### • BioTrade business environment

- UNCTAD assisted Peru and Viet Nam to improve the BioTrade business environment while implementing aspects of the Nagoya Protocol on BioTrade products
- Technical assistance to adapt their National Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) legislation to be more supportive of BioTrade

### • UNEP-UNCTAD Webinar

Clarifying BioTrade and ABS - What countries need to avoid while developing ABS regimes

### • Blue BioTrade

Adapting and contextualizing BioTrade principles for use in the marine realm  
"Blue BioTrade: Harnessing trade and investment for sustainable use" (side event at the UN Ocean Conference June 2017, New York)



## 7 Competition and Consumer Protection

### • Central Africa Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC)

- Revised regional Competition rules
- New institutional and regulatory frameworks in Dem.Rep. of Congo (DRC) and Sao Tome;
- Regional guidelines on Consumer Protection for Central Africa;
- Training and advocacy workshops
- Creation of networks of competition and consumer protection agencies in the region.

### • MENA Programme

- Adoption of Lebanon and Palestine's draft Competition law
- Revision of Algeria law;
- Competition seminars (Palestine, Lebanon)
- Training workshop on Investigation Tools (Tunisia);
- Consumer Protection E-commerce and Complaint Handling workshop (Lebanon)
- Launch of 2 Regional Training Centers - Competition (Tunisia) and Consumer Protection (Lebanon);
- Cooperation arrangements and partnerships with regional organizations and international partners

### • COMPAL Programme 16 Latin American countries

- Paraguay Competition Act & Competition Commission.
- Draft Competition law of Guatemala.
- Peru's leniency, merger control draft law;
- Paraguay's consumer protection law;
- Argentina's leniency programme.
- Upgrading beneficiaries' legislation (Guidelines for consumer protection & Model law)
- 6 regional events, 500 participants, 25 countries
- Triangular and South-South cooperation
- Online regional platform for effective cooperation among beneficiaries:

# C Fostering economic efficiency, improving governance



## 7 Competition and Consumer Protection



### • Zimbabwe

- Competition assessment toolkit
- Draft Competition law
- Training of Judges

### • Ethiopia

- Reports and guidelines and training materials produced. Workshops and study tours organized

### • West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

- Finalization of the draft Bill on mergers control

### • Tanzania

- Follow up of the implementation of the tripartite Voluntary Peer Review (2012, with Zimbabwe and Zambia), including workshops and Implementation reports.

### • Peer reviews on competition law and policy

- Uruguay (2016)
- Argentina (2017)

### • 1st Peer reviews on consumer protection

- Morocco
- The process is ongoing

## 7 Competition and Consumer Protection

### • ASEAN

- 6 training modules: Product Safety and Labeling; Consumer Credit and Banking; Professional Services; Phones and Internet Services and E-commerce; Environment and Health Care services;

- Regional workshops for ASEAN member States representatives;

- Official publication online of the training modules on the ASEAN Website

### • Albania

- Training and technical assistance activities  
- business competition culture  
- Competition in digital markets  
- Creation of a library within the Competition Authority

### • CABO VERDE

- Assessment report of the legal and institutional framework

- Sector-specific regulation, including policy recommendations;

### Maafikiano - Para 69

(q) "Fair, sound and robust national competition and consumer protection laws and policies are also important, as is international cooperation, information exchange and capacity-building in these areas (...)

### Maafikiano - Para 76

(q)"To assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to formulate and implement competition and consumer protection policies and laws, including through voluntary peer reviews and the sharing of best practices; as well as facilitating international cooperation among competition and consumer protection agencies together with other relevant international organizations, taking into account the revised United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection."

## 8 Trade, Gender and Development Programme

### • Online course on Trade and Gender

Researchers, government officials & civil society representatives from developing countries and countries with economies in transition



49 graduates from **COMESA countries**

89 graduates from **55 Countries**

### • Short courses for delegates from Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva and WTO

"The trade and gender nexus and its relevance to inclusive development"

### • Online course on Trade and Gender

- Abridged version tailored to a broader and non-specialized audience

- Available on the e-learning campus of the UN Women Training Centre.

### • Toolbox for the ex-ante gender impact assessment and measurement of the gender effects of trade reforms

- Innovative methodology using data forecasts to conduct a gender evaluation that predicts the likely impact of a trade measure prior to its implementation.

- Contributes to ensuring that trade plays its role as a tool for inclusive development and for the economic empowerment of women.

### **Maafikiano - Paras 55 and 14**

55(bb): "[r]einforce its work on the links between gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment and trade and development(...)

14(a): "[c]ontinue its efforts in all its work to mainstream cross-cutting issues of gender equality and the empowerment of women

14(b), recognizing that "gender equality and women's empowerment (...) are essential to all countries to attain sustainable and equitable growth and development"

# THANK YOU



**Division on  
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