Expert Meeting on Voluntary Sustainability Standards, Market Access, and Trade-led Sustainable Development

27 September 2017 (14:45-16:00), Palais des Nations (Room XXV), Geneva



Ms. Isabelle Durant took up the position of Deputy Secretary-General on 3 July 2017. Immediately prior to becoming Deputy Secretary-General, Ms. Durant was a member of the Parliament of the Brussels-Capital Region and of the Economic Affairs committee. In the framework of a large reform of regional economic tools, she was especially involved in innovation, sharing and circular economy. Ms. Durant served as Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium and Minister of Transport and Energy for four years. Between 2009 and 2014, Ms. Durant was Vice-President of the European Parliament. As a Belgian Senator from 2003 to 2009, Ms. Durant served on the Committees for Foreign Affairs and Social Affairs and participated in many Election Observation Missions (DRC, Egypt, Tunisia).



Dr. Harsha Vardhana Singh is the Executive Director at Brookings India, and Senior Fellow of the Council on Emerging Market Enterprises (Fletcher School). He has over three decades of experience in international trade policy, development, infrastructure regulation and global governance. From 2005 to 2013, Dr. Singh was Deputy Director-General at the World Trade Organization. His direct areas of responsibility included trade in agriculture, services, trade and environment, technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and electronic commerce.



Mr. Patrick Mallet is the Director of Innovation at ISEAL Alliance. Mr. Mallet has worked with ISEAL since its founding and served as the first Executive Director and spearheaded the development of the ISEAL Alliance's first Code of Good Practice for Standard-Setting in 2004. As Director on Innovations, Mr. Mallet is leading the organization's work to ensure that members are well-positioned to drive transformation to full sustainability in the sectors where they work.



Professor Bernard Hoekman is the Director of the research area "Global Economics" and a renowned international trade economist. Prior positions include Director of the International Trade Department and Research Manager in the Development Research Group of the World Bank and economist in the GATT Secretariat. His research focuses on international trade and development questions, and the governance of the global trading system.



Mr. Noel Kalo is the Acting Director for the Vanuatu Department of Industry. A native Ni-Vanuatu, he has dedicated much of his career in agriculture and horticultural value chains focusing on local producers. He has been actively involved in the formulation process of numerous policies including the National Livestock Framework (NLF), National Agriculture Policy, and Tourism Action Plan. He is a working group member of the coconut and cocoa sectors.



Ms. Kali Taylor is an Advisor to the SDG Lab representing the NGO viewpoint and providing expertise on systems change and innovation. Ms. Taylor began her career in the energy industry working primarily on climate and energy transition issues. She left the private sector to run a global youth-focused NGO (Student Energy) which she co-founded while in university. Ms. Taylor joined IISD in 2016 to work on policy innovation for the SDGs.



Andrea Barrios Villarreal was Director for International Standardization at the Ministry of Trade, Mexico (2011-2013). During that time, Ms. Barrios led and managed Mexico's relations with international and regional standardizing bodies (ISO, IEC, Codex, COPANT, PASC, etc.), and facilitated the discussion among different stakeholders to achieve consensual national positions.