

Joint Commonwealth Secretariat-UNCTAD Webinar

## Graduating with Momentum: IPR-related issues, challenges and opportunities for LDCs

Wednesday 26 April 2023, 12h00 -13h00 CEST

On the occasion of World Intellectual Property Day, this webinar will address the issues, challenges and opportunities relating to intellectual property rights (IPRs) for graduating least developed countries (LDCs). Drawing on insights from ongoing work by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the webinar will examine the practical implications for LDCs of losing LDC-specific flexibilities in implementing the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and facing additional IPR-related requirements and obligations after graduation. The discussions will also cover LDCs' strategic priorities, interests and support needs relating to IPRs; and identify opportunities for LDCs currently on the path to graduation to leverage IPRs strategically to develop productive capacities, facilitate technological upgrading, foster innovation, increase trade and investment, and achieve inclusive growth and structural transformation to graduate with momentum.

### Proposed Agenda

Welcome (3 minutes)	<b>Brendan Vickers</b> (Moderator) Head, International Trade Policy Section, Commonwealth Secretariat
Presentation (10 minutes): <i>Emerging insights from work commissioned by the Commonwealth Secretariat</i>	<b>Neil Balchin</b> Economic Adviser, International Trade Policy Section, Commonwealth Secretariat
Presentation (10 minutes): <i>Emerging insights from work commissioned by UNCTAD</i>	<b>Lisa Borgatti</b> Chief, Office of the Director, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD
Reflections from discussants (TBC) (5 minutes each)	<b>Debapriya Bhattacharya</b> Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue
	<b>Chi Dung Duong</b> Director, World Intellectual Property Organization
Q&A (30 minutes)	Interactive discussion
Closing Remarks (3 minutes)	<b>Rolf Traeger</b> Chief, Least Developed Countries Section, UNCTAD