

National Training and Capacity Building Workshop to Upgrade and Diversify the Fish exports of Uganda

**Kampala
27-29 October, 2015**

Background

In the context of its Development Accounts Project: *Building the capacities of selected LDCs to upgrade and diversify their fish exports*, UNCTAD is organizing a training and capacity building workshop in Kampala, Uganda.

The project, which also covers Uganda, intends to upgrade the technical knowledge and expertise in beneficiary countries to overcome challenges posed by weak supply capacities and complex international food safety and quality standards on fish exports.

The workshop will address four broad issues:

- i. ways and means to sustainably tap into the potential of the fisheries sector through diversification and structural transformation of the sector;
- ii. Sharing best practices and successful experiences from other developing countries on how to take advantage of growing global demand in fish, including through aquaculture;
- iii. policies and strategies to enhance the role of the fisheries sector in socio-economic development of Uganda; and,
- iv. ways and means to effectively address the challenges of meeting international fish quality and safety standards.

The workshop is expected to enrich and validate a manual on improving national standards in compliance with international sanitary and phytosanitary standards, prepared by UNCTAD, which will serve as background document and a basis on which discussions will take place.

The workshop will have two main segments: Technical segment and a segment consisting of policy makers, advisors and practitioners drawn from various Ugandan institutions.

Objectives of the Workshop

Part 1 – Technical working session

The objective of this part is to allow an in-depth technical discussion on the problems posed by weak supply capacities and complex international standards.

Key participants will be technical people, from private and public institutions dealing with the fishery sector, fishermen, experts in fish inspection, exporters, etc. with practical and technical knowledge about trade, development policies and international standards pertaining to food quality and safety. Participants will be exposed to the most important challenges, opportunities and potential in fishery exports as well as offered hands-on training on key aspects of improving national food safety and safety standards.

A manual on ***improving national standards in compliance with international sanitary and phytosanitary standards***, prepared by UNCTAD, will serve as background document and a basis on which discussions will take place.

Part 2 – Meeting at the level of policy makers, advisors and practitioners

The session is focusing on sharing information and increasing awareness as well as understanding of key policy makers on issues related to formulating and implementing diversification policies and export promotion strategies, with a particular focus on the fish sector.

This aims to sensitize a broad range of stakeholders, including government officials, in order for them to understand their roles and required actions to sustainably upgrade and diversify fish exports of Uganda by improving international standards.

The segment will also explore ways and means of implementing the UNCTAD manual on improving national standards in compliance with international sanitary and phytosanitary standards.