

# FORUM FOR NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEES

27- 29 NOVEMBER 2018, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

# AFRICA

*Empowering Public-Private partnership for trade facilitation*

*Renforcer le partenariat public-privé pour la facilitation des échanges*

## Speakers Intervenants

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### Non-comprehensive list of speakers who are participating in the Forum (in alphabetical order)



## Rajesh Aggarwal

Chief, Trade Facilitation and Policy for Business Section at the International Trade Centre (ITC)

For last 12 years, leading programmes aimed at building public-private collaboration on trade policy / regulatory reforms and international trade negotiations. These programmes are implemented in the context of supporting implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, negotiations on accession to WTO, regional integration and promoting business advocacy for national policy and regulatory reform for export development.

India's negotiator in the WTO covering Agriculture, TRIPS and Public Health, Rules and Trade & Competition Policy for more than 8 years. He has an experience of over 22 years working in senior positions in Government of India prior to joining ITC.



## Milena Budimirović

Senior Technical Officer, Procedures and Facilitation Sub-Directorate, World Customs Organization (WCO)

Milena is a Senior Technical Officer in the WCO Procedures and Facilitation Sub-Directorate. Her responsibilities cover the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), including co-managing the WCO Working Group on the WTO TFA (TFAWG) and cooperation with the WTO and Annex D+ organizations. She is the main coordinator for the Permanent Technical Committee and is involved in the development of trade facilitation instruments and tools. She manages the Future of Customs file, which explores disruptive technologies and foresight, amongst other, and is in charge of the WCO IT Conference agenda. Relations with the Private Sector Consultative Group is another task that has been included in her portfolio.

Before joining the WCO Secretariat in May 2012, Ms. Budimirović served as Brussels-based Customs Attaché of the Republic of Serbia for three years, during which she worked closely with the European Commission and the WCO covering all areas of Customs business. In 2011 she was accredited WCO Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Technical and Operational Advisor.

Prior to moving to Brussels, she served for ten years in the Customs Administration of Serbia. First six years she was involved in Customs clearance at a number of different border posts, after which she moved to the International Affairs Department in the Headquarters. She managed the WCO SAFE Implementation Project and was involved in various modernization projects supported by the WCO and the EU.

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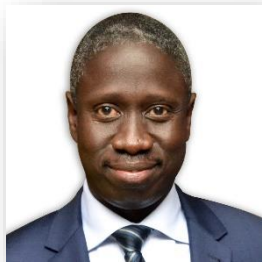


### John David

Information Systems Officer, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

John David is an Information Systems Officer at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) where he works for the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) Programme. He has over 20 years working in the technical field of customs automation and he is presently coordinating the technical development and support of the system including the most recent version - ASYCUDAWorld, this includes supporting the initiatives in building customs-centric Single Windows in various ASYCUDA-user countries.

John was raised in the UK, Botswana and Geneva and graduated from Bristol university with a Masters degree in Computer Science. He has participated in international conferences with WCO, EU, OIC-IDB, IFC, ADB and COMESA where he delivered presentations and demonstrations of the ASYCUDA system.



### Ibrahima Nour Eddine Diagne

Managing Director, GAINDE 2000

Ibrahima Nour Eddine Diagne (MBA, M.Sc – HEC Paris – HEC Montreal) is currently the Managing Director of GAINDE 2000 (Senegal's national single window for trade facilitation) and Rapporteur for Africa of the United Nations Center for E-Business (UN/CEFACT). Mr. DIAGNE holds 23 years of experience on implementing trade facilitation and paperless trade in Senegal and Africa. He led the implementation from inception in 1995 to full operation of the first African single window in 2002.

As one of the key founders of the African Alliance for Electronic Commerce (AAEC), Mr. DIAGNE has been the first Chairman of the Alliance (2009 to 2017). He honored his Chairmanship with important achievements and international recognition. He also co-founded the African Performance Institute with the objective to address issues on the development of the Digital in Africa and E-commerce.

In 2012, his work has been awarded at the first place of United Nations Public Services award (UNPSA) during the ceremony held in New York at the UN General Assembly Hall.



### Gugu Treasure Dlamini-Zwane

Manager of Customs Modernisation, Reform and International Liaison at the Eswatini Revenue Services (ERA).

Ms. Zwane holds 2 Masters Degrees, Executive Master of Business Studies(MBA) and Master of Customs Law(MCA). She began her career in Customs in 2002. She has spent most of her career time dealing in International Customs and Trade issues. Before the establishment of ERA she held a position of Head of International Liaison and Cooperation. She was then seconded to the Embassy of Eswatini in Brussels, Belgium as a Customs Attaché for 7 years. She spent more than 60% of her time at World Customs Organisations. While in Brussels, she chaired the WCO Counterfeiting and Piracy Group. She is also the

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first Chairperson of the WCO TFA Working Group. Her area of expertise is Customs Modernisation and Trade Facilitation. She is an Accredited WCO Modernisation Advisor and Mercator Programme Advisor. In my role as an MPA I support implementation of trade facilitation reforms at the ERCA. While in Brussels, she was instrumental in the implementation of the TFA including the establishment of the NTFC way in 2013. She has also been instrumental in Eswatini joining the WCO Mercator Programme. She is also a Member of the Eswatini NTFC Secretariat which is Co- Chaired by the Commissioner General of ERA and the Principal Secretary Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade. Describing Ms Gugu in 2 words, positive and ambitious person.

### **Fetlework Gebregziabher**

Minister of Trade and Industry, Ethiopia



Alumni of LSE Ms. Gebregziabher is currently in the driving seat of the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Ethiopia. She has a long civil servant track record where she has served as bureau Head, Trade, Industry and Urban Development, National Region of Tigray; Deputy Director General of Financial Intelligence Centre of the FDRE; Centre for the Development of Democratic System, Urban Sector Coordinator under the Office of the Prime Minister. She is also a vice Chair Person of TPLF and is a Member of the EPRDF executive committee and EPRDF Council.

### **Ziad Malek Hamoui**

National President, Borderless Alliance, Ghana



Ziad Hamoui is the founder and past president of the Borderless Alliance in West Africa, an award-winning, regional, private sector led, multi-stakeholder advocacy group that promotes economic integration in West Africa and tackles barriers to trade and transport in the region. He is currently National President of its local chapter in Ghana.

Mr. Hamoui is also a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) – Ghana and the Branch Chairman of the institute's Tema Section, as well as member of its Public Affairs Unit.

Ziad has fifteen years of private sector, senior management experience, in Ghana, as Executive Director of Transport and Operations at Tarzan Enterprise Ltd., a post that he continues to hold since 2002.

### **Poul Hansen,**

Chief, Trade Facilitation Section, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD.



Poul Hansen is responsible for issues relating to Trade Facilitation at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Division on Technology and Logistics (DTL). UNCTAD's mandate is to assist developing and least developed countries as well as economies in transition integrating into global trade, promoting development-centered globalization and inclusive and sustainable growth and development for these countries.

Poul has extensive experience in the area of trade and transport facilitation, having worked for almost 20 years in the UN system on issues such as

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international trade, transportation, development, international standards, previously working at the UNECE as Secretary for the TIR and Harmonization Conventions.

In addition, during his UN career Poul has also worked in the field of international sports policy as Head of the UN Office on Sport and Development and Peace.

Prior to joining the UN, Poul worked for more than 10 years in the private sector in areas such public affairs, management consulting and logistics with organizations including Ernst & Young, FreightForward Europe (FFE), the International Road Transport Union (IRU) and the Ziegler Group, gaining experience in a number of industries including transportation and logistics, automotive, manufacturing and retail.

Poul's studies include both master and bachelor levels in Business Administration and International Law from the Aarhus and Copenhagen Business Schools, Denmark.



## Mark Henderson

Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility (TFAF), World Trade Organization (WTO)

Mark Henderson joined the TFAF Secretariat on 1 August 2018 and is responsible for the Grant Program.

Mark comes to the WTO with more than 13 years' experience of project management in trade and development issues in Beijing and in Brussels.

From 2008 to 2013, Mark was in Beijing as Project Manager of the EU-China Trade Project responsible for issues including low carbon economy, competition policy, regulatory reform and intellectual property rights.

For the last five years Mark was responsible for the trade and development policy of the European Commission, working at the Directorate General for Trade.

Mark has trade negotiation experience in the multilateral context having been responsible for EU trade inputs to the UN 2030 Agenda on sustainable Development and at the bilateral level, he was lead negotiator for the Trade and Sustainable Development Chapter of the recently concluded Japan EU Economic Partnership Agreement.

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### Manuel Henriques

Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, Global, Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice, World Bank Group (WBG)

Manuel Henriques joined the World Bank Group in 2013 as a Senior Private Sector Development Specialist with the Global Trade Team. Among other projects, he is working to deliver customs and trade facilitation reforms under the *Improved and Facilitated Trade in West Africa* project funded by the EU and the new multi-donor *Trade Facilitation in West Africa* program. The objectives include: reducing the time and cost to trade; improving compliance; supporting regional integration; improving the business environment for small scale traders, especially for women; and increasing border agency cooperation and coordination, to encourage a better flow of goods in West Africa. The TFWA is taking a corridor approach within Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Prior to the World Bank Group, Manuel worked for the Government of Canada in various roles with the departments of treasury, tax and customs. He led Canada's customs and trade facilitation delegation on regional and international free trade agreements, including the WTO's rules of origin and the trade facilitation agreement. Manuel has a wealth of international experience. He worked on a USAID-funded customs and modernization project in Egypt, as a Senior Trade Facilitation Advisor with the International Trade Centre in Geneva, and a number of consulting assignments in Armenia and Colombia.

Manuel is a Canadian national. He holds a bachelor's in economics and a master of business administration.



### Jan Hoffman

Chief, Trade Logistics Branch, UNCTAD

Jan joined UNCTAD in 2003 and was appointed Chief of the organization's Trade Logistics Branch in 2016. The Branch is implementing various multilateral transport and trade facilitation capacity building programmes, as well as regional and national projects in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The Branch also produces the annual UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport and Maritime Country Profiles, the quarterly Transport and Trade Facilitation Newsletter, the annual Liner Shipping Connectivity Index, and the Repository of National Trade Facilitation Committees.

Previously, Jan spent six years with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago de Chile, and two years with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London and Santiago. Prior to this, he held part time positions as assistant professor, import-export agent, seafarer, translator and consultant. For eight years, he also worked part time for the family tramp shipping business "Hoffmann Shipping", based in Horneburg, Germany and registered in Antigua and Barbuda.

Jan has studied in Germany, United Kingdom and Spain, and holds a doctorate degree in Economics from the University of Hamburg. He has three sons and one wife.

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### Estelle Igwe

Vice Chair, United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

In April 2014, Ms. Igwe was elected Vice Chair of the UN/CEFACT Bureau. She is in charge of the International Trade Procedures Programme Development Area (ITP-PDA).

Born in 1962, Ms. Igwe holds a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.Hons) from the University of Port Harcourt, and two Masters degrees in International Law & Diplomacy (M.A.) and International Relations & Strategic Studies (M.Sc.) from the University of Jos, Nigeria.

She is a Deputy Director with the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC), the Nigerian Federal Government Apex Agency for the promotion of non-oil exports and the diversification of the nation's economy. She currently heads the Trade Information Department of the agency and has 27 years experience as a Trade Promotion Officer.

Ms. Igwe had previously served as Export Desk Manager NEPC, Network Administrator, ECOWAS Trade Opportunities Management System (SIGOA-TOPS) and Secretary, Nigerian Committee on Trade Procedures (NITPRO).



### Francis Nguendi Ikome, Ph.D

Chief, Regional Integration Section, Regional Integration and Trade Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

Francis Nguendi Ikome is currently, chief of the Regional Integration Section in the Regional Integration and Trade Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Until fairly recently, he was Chief of the Governance and Public Sector Management Section in the Macroeconomic Policy Division of ECA. Between 2007 and mid-2011 he served as Director of the Institute for Global Dialogue's (IGDs) Multilateral Programme; and as head of the African Conflict Prevention Programme (ACPP) at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in Pretoria, respectively – both based in South Africa. He also worked for the African Union Commission between 2006 and 2007, where he contributed in the establishment of the permanent Assembly of the African Union's Economic Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC). He also served in the technical committee that facilitated the preparation of the African Union's Agenda 2063. He has lectured and served as external examiner in politics and international relations at universities in Cameroon and South Africa. Francis holds a Ph.D in International Relations, with a bias in comparative political Economy from the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, a Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Political Science from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria and a Bachelor of Arts (BA-honors) from the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon. He has published on diverse issues, including on issues of national and global governance, African integration and development, and conflict management.

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### Philippe Isler

Director, Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation (GATF)

The Global Alliance, based at the World Economic Forum in Geneva, Switzerland, aims at incubating and delivering trade facilitation projects from the bottom up by leveraging on funding and expertise from both donor countries and private sector companies working jointly. Philippe has been leading trade facilitation initiatives for the past 15 years in many parts of the world. In particular, he developed and deployed solutions aimed at digitising the supply chain processes in a number of developing countries through Public Private Partnership mechanisms. He also spent 10 years developing traceability solutions aimed at tracking consignments transiting through countries with harsh environments. Formerly Vice President at SGS Group leading Government and Institutions Business Development for Trade Community Systems, E-Government, Telecom Monitoring and Port/Customs Operations. He holds a BSc in Aerospace Engineering, Bristol University.



### Dhunraj Kasse

Senior Policy Officer, Customs Cooperation in the Department of Trade and Industry of African Union Commission (AUC)

Dhunraj Kasse is a Senior Policy Officer, Customs Cooperation in the Department of Trade and Industry of AUC based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia since January 2017. He has worked at the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat, Gaborone, Botswana as Programme Officer, Capacity Building since February 2010, where he was mainly responsible for capacity building, ICT and other trade facilitation programmes in the Customs Unit of the Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment Directorate. Dhunraj worked for the Mauritius Revenue Authority as a Senior Customs expert for 16 years and prior to that in the Ministry of Labour and Industrial Relations. Dhunraj has also worked for the World Trade Organization as Consultant for a Trade Facilitation Needs Assessment in Mali in December 2013. He has a Master of Science in Project Management with University of Salford, Manchester and a Master of Customs Administration, Policy and Law from the University of Münster, Germany. He also holds a Degree in Public Administration and Management from the University of Technology, Mauritius, and a Diploma in Marketing and Management from the Institute of Commercial Management (UK). He is a member of the International Network of Customs Universities (INCUI) has got several publications including those in the World Customs Journal and the OECD.



### Joy Kategekwa

Head, UNCTAD Regional Office for Africa

Dr. Joy Kategekwa is a Ugandan national. She holds the distinguished position of Head of the UNCTAD Regional Office for Africa, located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – and has been behind some of the transformational trade capacity building that UNCTAD is delivering on the African continent. She is an international trade and development law and policy specialist and has spent the last 15 years in top multilateral trade institutions, including the World Trade Organization – shaping trade and development rules, policies and capacity building programmes for Africa. She is one of the architects of the African Continental Free Trade Area and remains passionate about its promise in unleashing Africa's economic miracle. She is the author of "Opening Markets for Foreign Skills: How Can the WTO help?" - An acclaimed treatise on regulating movement of people through trade agreements.

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She has a track record for academic excellence and is part of global faculty on key trade law graduate pro-grammes across the world. She holds a Ph.D. in International Trade Law from the University of Berne's prestigious World Trade Institute, a Master of laws in International Trade and Investment Law from the Uni-versity of the Western Cape and the Amsterdam Law School, and a Bachelor of Laws from Makerere Univer-sity. She is married and is the very proud mother of four beautiful girls.



### **Kwera Stella M. Kisuze**

Executive Officer Customs, Uganda Revenue Authority.

She is result oriented, motivated and known for excellence, creativity and passion.

She holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration (Management), a Post graduate Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation, a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology and an advanced diploma in Software Engineering.

She previously worked as the head of Computer Studies at the famous Kampala Parents School, as a branch I.T Systems Supervisor with Centenary Rural Development Bank, as a Digital Forensics Analyst with Tax Investigations Department - Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) and currently serves as the Acting Supervisor Customs for the Executive Office.

Over her 9 years of service at the Uganda Revenue Authority she chaired a departmental Innovations Committee, spear headed implementation of the Business Unusual Campaign and was a Director for research in the URA Staff council.

As young girl, in her teenage years she observed her mother, then a woman Member of Parliament for Kabale District fight for the rights of the vulnerable women in the village and create opportunities to enable the women improve their financial situation. This marked the beginning of her journey to support the women cause. Today, she leads the team implementing the Women Traders Trade Facilitation initiative in Customs Uganda that is facilitating women in trade.

Due to her hard work and passion for the cause, the department has rolled out the activities of the framework to all stations and implementation is in high gear looking forward to a review at the end of the year and more activities in the new financial year.

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## Mukhisa Kituyi

Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi became the seventh Secretary-General of UNCTAD on 1 September 2013. He has an extensive background as an elected official, academic and holder of high government office. Dr. Kituyi was elected to the Parliament of Kenya in 1992 and was twice re-elected. He was the Minister of Trade and Industry of Kenya from 2002 to 2007. During this period, Dr. Kituyi chaired and participated in a variety of ministerial-level initiatives, including for the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States and the 2005 Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization.

Immediately prior to becoming Secretary-General, Dr. Kituyi was Chief Executive of the Kenya Institute of Governance and a Fellow of the Brookings Institution. From 2008 to 2012, Dr. Kituyi was a member of a team of experts advising the presidents of the nations of the East African Community on how to establish more effective regional economic links. From 2011 to 2012, he was a consultant for the African Union Commission, where he helped to develop the structure for a pan-African free trade area.

Dr. Kituyi studied political science and international relations at the University of Nairobi and at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, receiving a BA in 1982. He went on to earn a Master of Philosophy and a PhD from the University of Bergen.



## Rajcurrun Koolash

Team Leader, Risk Management Section, Mauritius Revenue Authority

Joined the Customs and Excise Department in 1975.

Have work through various Sections/Units - from Preventive Section to Risk Management Section through Compliance Section, Excise Section, Drug Unit, Exemption Unit etc. as Customs and Excise Officer up to Principal Customs and Excise Officer.

With the inception of Mauritius Revenue Authority in 2006, he was nominated as Technical Officer and in 2009 he was promoted to Team Leader.

His hobby - football and jogging.



## Robert Tama Lisinge

Chief, Operational Quality Section, Strategic Planning and Operational Quality Division, UNECA

Robert Tama Lisinge is the Chief of the Operational Quality Section of the Strategic Planning and Operational Quality Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Currently, he also heads ECA's work on Energy, Infrastructure and Services in the newly created Private Sector Development and Finance Division. He holds a BSc degree in Civil Engineering and an MSc degree in Transportation Engineering. He also holds an MPhil and a degree of Doctor of Business Administration from the Maastricht School of Management in the Netherlands. He has over 15 years of experience in undertaking research and advising African countries and organisations on infrastructure policy as well as transport and trade

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facilitation issues. He has delivered courses on transport infrastructure development at the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in Dakar, Senegal.

### David Luke

Coordinator, African Trade Policy Centre, United Nation Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)



David Luke is Coordinator of the African Trade Policy Centre at the UN Economic Commission for Africa with the rank of a director at the Commission. He is responsible for leading ECA's research, policy advisory services, training and capacity development on inclusive trade policies and in particular the boosting intra-African trade and the continental free trade area initiatives. His portfolio also includes WTO, EPAs, Brexit, AGOA, Africa's trade with emerging economies, and trade and cross-cutting policy areas such as trade, industrialization and structural transformation, trade and gender, trade and public health and trade and climate change.

Prior to joining ECA in 2014, he served as UNDP trade policy adviser in Southern Africa and Geneva and also as Senior Economist and Chief of Trade at the Organization for African Unity/African Union Commission, and as an Associate Professor at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada.

### Tarik MAAOUNI

Chief Information and Digital Officer, Agence Nationale des Ports



With over 20 years of experience in managing digital business transformation, Mr. Tarik MAAOUNI successively held management positions in the information system ecosystem for private and public companies in France and Morocco in several sectors: financial, banking, transport and logistics.

Graduate of an engineering school specializing in applied mathematics and computer science (ENSIMAG) and a Master in Finance from IAE de Paris, Mr. Tarik MAAOUNI joined National Port Agency of Morocco (ANP) in 2012, as Chief Information and Organisation Officer, and to set up the National Single Window for Foreign Trade of Morocco (PORTNET).

This ambitious project resulting from a Moroccan political will to the convergence of different national strategies (transport, trade, logistics), and implemented through a public-private partnership has mobilized the active players and companies in the port community and Foreign Trade of Morocco around the objectives of competitiveness, transparency and sustainable economic development.

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### Wilson Kapembwa Mazimba

Trade Facilitation Specialist, Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Zambia.

I am an economist holding a Master's Degree in Economics. I am currently working as Senior Local Consultant with the World Bank Group establishing the Zambian National Trade Facilitation Committee Secretariat domiciled at the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry. The National Trade Facilitation Committee serves as an interactive forum for discussion and implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) provisions. As part of the Secretariat, I am coordinating TFA implementing Agencies and monitoring their implementation while also mobilising resources for implementing Agencies.

I have consulted with the Netherlands Development Organisation, SNV, as Socio-Economic Specialist under Micro Hydro Pre-Feasibility Study in Zambia as well as the World Bank funded poverty profile for Zambia as principal consultant/Researcher.

I served as Zambia's diplomat in Ethiopia as First Secretary (Economic) and in Kenya as Deputy High Commissioner and as Deputy Chair of the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) accredited to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). I have served as Board Chairperson of the Addis Ababa based COMESA Leather and Leather Products Institute and I worked in a multi-cultural environment at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Union (AU) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, Kenya.



### Rajendra Meena

Expert, Capacity Building Directorate, World Customs Organization (WCO)

Mr Rajendra Meena is Additional Commissioner Customs from India and is presently working as Technical Expert in World Customs Organization (WCO) Secretariat, Brussels since March 2017. He is responsible for delivery of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building projects for greater trade facilitation especially in the areas of Single Window, Coordinated Border Management (CBM), Time Release Study (TRS) and Data Harmonization. He has been instrumental in developing the WCO e-learning course for Single Window.

During 2015 & 2016, he was Joint Commissioner Customs in charge of the IT – Single Window Project team in India. While managing the Project, he engaged all CBRAs to develop integrated risk management system for promoting ease of doing business in India.

He held the position of Second Secretary (Trade), Embassy of India to Belgium, Luxembourg & EU from 2012 to 2015 maintaining liaison with the Customs Administrations of EU and represented India in World Customs Organisation (WCO) as Customs Attaché.

As Under Secretary, International Customs Division, Ministry of Finance in India, from 2010 to 2012, he was responsible for managing regulatory, logistic

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and trade facilitation in India & coordinated regional integration projects in South Asia.



### **Albert Mudenda Muchanga**

African Union Commissioner, Trade and Industry

Albert Mudenda Muchanga was elected African Union Commissioner for Trade and Industry in January, 2017 for a four year term. He took up his post on 15th March, 2017.

He previously worked in the Zambian Civil Service at home and abroad, including the Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community. He works with ease at technical, professional, leadership and political levels.

Albert Mudenda Muchanga brings to the Department of Trade and Industry, experience in the promotion of inter-governmental relations, engagement with the private sector, as well as promotion of regional integration and cooperation as levers of sustainable development, among other key areas that are critical to the effective execution of his current duties.

Albert Mudenda Muchanga has a passion for creating value from all his official engagements. He also believes that continuously developing people and institutions is crucial to creating value on a sustainable basis.



### **Brenda Rachael Phiri Mundia**

Deputy Director, Capacity Building, WCO

Brenda Rachael Phiri Mundia is a qualified and experienced trade and Customs executive. Currently, she is the Deputy Director for Capacity Building at the World Customs Organization (WCO) where she provides policy and strategic leadership including actively contributing in setting new priorities for the WCO's capacity building agenda. Prior to joining the WCO in October 2015, she worked at the Zambia Revenue Authority for about 20 years, where she held various positions with the last one being Assistant Commissioner of Customs responsible for international relations and policy coordination.

She has extensive professional exposure which cuts across policy and operational areas of customs. It includes customs reform and modernisation, regional integration and trade negotiations among others. During the last three years of her service in Zambia, she represented her country at the WTO TFA negotiations and was a key contributor to the subsequent national needs assessment that resulted in Zambia becoming the first developing WTO Member to notify fully her category A commitments and category B and C capacity building needs.

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### Joseph Nguene Nteppe

Permanent Secretary, National Trade Facilitation Committee of Cameroon (CONAFE)

Mr. Joseph Nguene Nteppe has a PhD. in maritime and transport law, University of Nantes – France, since 2007. He also has a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Law, University of Yaounde II – Cameroon.

#### Other Positions:

- National Contact Point with UNCTAD, WTO and IMO on trade facilitation issues
- Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, University of Douala, Cameroon
- Trainer in the Modern Port Management Course - UNCTAD Train for Trade Programme
- Secretary General of the Cameroon Maritime Law Association (ACDM)
- Former Director of Trade Facilitation and Transport Observatory, Cameroon National Shippers' Council
- Technical Secretary of the National Committee for Maritime Traffic Facilitation

Married with children.



### Célestin NZENGUE

Director of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Gabon

Avec plus de dix années d'expérience professionnelle M. Nzengue occupait les fonctions telles que Coordonnateur national mise en œuvre de l'Accord sur la Facilitation des Echanges (AFE); Chef de projet et point focal du programme de soutien aux comités nationaux de la facilitation des échanges (CNUCED); Co-élaborateur du Programme national d'assistance technique et financière sur la mise en œuvre de l'AFE au Gabon (PRONATEF); Négociateur en chef pour le compte du Gabon auprès de la Commission de l'Union Africaine en vue de l'établissement de la Zone de libre-échange continentale (ZLECAF); Personne ressource nationale sur les questions liées à l'AGOA (Membre du Secrétariat et du Comité scientifique et technique); et Personne ressource dans la mise en œuvre du PROGACOM (Etude sur l'inventaire des mesures non tarifaires au Gabon). Simultanément, à son expertise sur les questions relatives à la formulation et au suivi des politiques commerciales, l'investissement, négociations commerciales bilatérales, régionales et multilatérales, M. Nzengue a été invité à intervenir dans de multiples événements nationaux et internationaux traitant des questions du commerce international. Diplômé du 3ème cycle en sciences politiques (mention commerce et développement) et en histoire économique, M. Nzengue a également publié et contribué à la rédaction de plusieurs rapports sur les problématiques du commerce international. Il est aussi consultant-intervenant sur les questions de politique commerciale et de développement.

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## Philip Parham

Envoy for Commonwealth, United Kingdom

Philip Parham was appointed the UK government's Envoy to the Commonwealth on 18 June 2018. Previously Philip was Her Majesty's Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates from July 2014 until June 2018. Before that he was the UK's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York (2009 to 2013), and British High Commissioner to Tanzania (2006 to 2009).

Philip joined the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) in 1993 after working for 10 years as an investment banker with Morgan Grenfell and then Barclays. He spent 6 of those 10 years in Japan, and was a Director of Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited before switching careers.

Philip's first FCO job was Head of the Pakistan/Afghanistan Section from 1993 to 1994. In 1995 he was Private Secretary to the FCO Minister covering Americas, South and South-East Asia, Public Diplomacy, Consular and Visa work and (in the House of Commons) Africa and International Development. He served for a short period in the FCO Policy Planning Staff before serving in the British Embassy in Washington covering UN, Africa and Asia business from 1996 to 2000. At the start of his Washington role, he was seconded for 3 months to the US State Department's East Asia and Pacific Bureau.

From 2000 to 2003, Philip served in Riyadh, as Director Trade & Investment for Saudi Arabia. On return to the FCO in London, he was Head of the Iraq Operations Unit 2003 to 2004, then Head of the Counter-Terrorism Policy Department 2004 to 2006.

His wife Kasia is a teacher and writer. They met at Oxford University and now have 2 daughters and 5 sons.

Follow Philip on Twitter.



## Saïd Maghraoui Hassani

Director, Defense and Regulation, Directorate General for Trade, Morocco

Saïd Maghraoui Hassani est directeur de la Défense et de la Réglementation Commerciale au Ministère de l'Industrie, de l'Investissement du Commerce et de l'Economie Numérique. A ce titre, il coiffe la Division de la Facilitation et de la Réglementation Commerciale qui a la charge de concevoir et de mettre en œuvre la politique du Gouvernement en matière de facilitation et simplification des procédures du commerce extérieur. A cette fin, il préside la Commission marocaine de facilitation des échanges instituée par décret du Chef du Gouvernement, en vue de mettre en place un plan national de facilitation des échanges et d'assurer la coordination de sa mise en œuvre.

M. Maghraoui, économiste de formation, a intégré le Ministère du Commerce Extérieur en juin 1995. Au cours de sa carrière au Ministère, il a eu à traiter plusieurs dossiers ayant trait à la conduite de la politique commerciale extérieure du Maroc. Dans ce sillage, il est impliqué dans diverses négociations commerciales aussi bien sur le plan bilatéral, régional ou multilatéral (OMC).

Eu égard à son expertise en matière d'instruments de la politique commerciale, M. Maghraoui a été invité à intervenir dans de multiples événements nationaux

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et internationaux traitant des questions du commerce international. Il a également contribué à la rédaction de plusieurs rapports et analyses sur les problématiques de politique commerciale.

### Arántzazu Sánchez

Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Facilitation Section, UNCTAD



Arántzazu Sánchez has been working on trade facilitation within the United Nations for six years. As a project manager for UNCTAD, she has undertaken WTO TFA related needs assessments and implementations plans in over 10 countries in Africa, South East Asia and Latin America. She is behind NTFC related publications such as UNECE Guide on How to Draft a TF Roadmap, UNCTAD publication on NTFCs in the world and the recently published NTFCs: beyond compliance of the WTO TFA and UNCTAD Policy Brief on Mainstreaming Gender in NTFCs. She is currently project manager of the HMRC-WCO-UNCTAD Capacity

Building Programme for the WTO TFA implementation and the EU project to support Central African States. She is also implementing UNCTAD Empowerment Programme for National Trade Facilitation Committees in several countries.

### Shamika N. Sirimanne

Director, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD



Shamika N. Sirimanne is the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics of UNCTAD. She leads UNCTAD's trade logistics programme, including the work on trade facilitation, sustainable and resilient freight transport, port management, and e-commerce and the digital economy. She also supervises UNCTAD's largest technical cooperation programme, ASYCUDA—the Automated System for Customs Data.

She serves as the Head of the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development which is the focal point of the UN on STI policy dialogue.

Ms. Sirimanne has extensive experience in development policy, research and technical cooperation gained from international organizations, national governments, think tanks and universities. She served as Director of the ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), where she spearheaded major regional cooperation programmes. Among them are the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative for seamless broadband connectivity, Regional Drought Mechanism for monitoring and early warning of drought through space applications, and the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade, UNNEXT.

During her tenure with ESCAP, Ms. Sirimanne also headed the trade facilitation programme, and led the macroeconomic policy work and ESCAP's flagship publication, Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific. Prior to that, Ms. Sirimanne was with the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), where she led the economic policy team and the Economic Report on Africa, the flagship publication of ECA. She has also worked for the Canadian Department of Finance and the World Bank. Ms. Sirimanne holds a PhD in Economics.

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### Willie Shumba

Senior Customs Expert and Advisor, Department of Industry and Trade, AUC

He works under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Unit and has over 35 years' experience in Customs, Fiscal Policy Reforms and Trade Facilitation issues having worked:

- a) In the Zimbabwe Customs Administration and the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority in various capacities including Executive Management; He had about 29 years with the Zimbabwe Public Services
- b) At the Southern African Development Community (SADC) as Senior Programme Manager for 7 years;
  - i. At the African Union Commission as a Senior Customs Expert and Advisor for about 2 years;
  - ii. Lecturer in Customs Law at the National University of Science and Technology in Zimbabwe for about 10 years;

Has studied Economics, Management, Project Management and International Trade Law with universities in Zimbabwe, South Africa and the UK

He is a Fellow of the Zimbabwe Institute of Management which is a leading and national institute of professional managers in Zimbabwe. Fellowship is the highest and most honoured level of membership.



### Kolawole Sofola

Principal Programme Officer, Multilateral Trade Economic Community of West African States

Kola Sofola is a Development Economist and a Chartered Management Accountant with public and private sector experience in International Trade, Private Sector Development, Finance and Management. His private sector experience includes various roles with the multinational blue chip giant, Siemens in Europe and America. His public service record includes working for the Government of Ghana in the Ministry for Private Sector Development, as well as the ECOWAS Commission where he is currently working as the Principal Programme Officer for Multilateral Trade with managerial responsibilities. A key focus in his current role is Trade Facilitation.



### Vera Songwe

Executive Secretary, UNECA

Dr. Vera Songwe is a UN Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa. Dr. Songwe is the first woman to hold this position in 60 years. From being listed by Forbes in 2013 as one of the "20 Young Power Women in Africa"; to being chosen by Institut Choiseul for International Politics and Geoeconomics as one of their "African leaders of tomorrow"; described as one of the "Top 10 Female Business Leaders in Africa" by the African Business Review in 2014; to being listed once again in the New African Magazine's 100 Most Influential Africans of 2017; Dr. Songwe has a long-standing track record of policy advice, results-oriented implementation in the region and demonstrated strategic vision for the continent. Some of her previous appointments include serving as the International Finance Corporation's

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Regional Director for West and Central Africa; the World Bank's Country Director for Senegal, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Mauritania; and Adviser to the Managing Director of the World Bank for the Africa, Europe and Central Asia and South Asia Regions.

Dr. Songwe holds a PhD in Mathematical Economics from the Center for Operations Research and Econometrics and a Master of Arts in Law and Economics and a Diplôme d'études approfondies in Economic Science and Politics from the Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium. She also has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Political Science from the University of Michigan. She is also a graduate of Our Lady of Lourdes College in Cameroon and has published widely on governance issues, innovative finance and fiscal policy issues.

### Melvin Spreij

Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) Secretariat, WTO



Melvin heads up the STDF Secretariat. He oversees STDF's Trust Fund, totalling more than US\$55 million since 2006 and supporting over 160 projects in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean. Leading a team of five experts, Melvin manages STDF's global knowledge platform, working closely with STDF's partner agencies (FAO, OIE, World Bank Group, WHO and WTO), donors, developing country governments and the public and private sector.

Melvin has longstanding expertise in trade, development, agriculture and law, as a Counsellor in the Agriculture and Commodities Division of the WTO, and previously at FAO and other international organizations. He holds a civil and business law degree from the State University Leiden, The Netherlands and has published widely on leading policy areas covering sustainable development and natural resources.

### Edwin Starch

Deputy Commissioner, Customs and Excise Business Analysis, Malawi Revenue Authority



Business Administration graduate, a trained Customs Officer and Trainer who has specialized in Customs Valuation, Tariff Classification and, Enforcement and Procedures, Mr. Starch is a member of the agency of the Government of Malawi responsible for assessment, collection and accounting for tax revenues. It was established by an Act of Parliament in 1998 and was launched in February 2000. It was formed to improve on the functions previously carried out by Divisions of Customs and Excise, and Income Tax in the Ministry of Finance. The Authority operates as a government tax administration agency under the Ministry of Finance. The revenue that the Authority collects goes to Government for implementation of various socio-economic development projects such as the constructions of roads, bridges, school's health facilities and provision of social services. These include national security, provision of salaries for civil servants such as the police, the army, judges, doctors, nurses and teachers.

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### **Dorothy Tembo,**

Deputy Executive Director, ITC

Dorothy Tembo is the Deputy Executive Director of the ITC since June 2014.

Zambian national, she has 30 years' experience in trade and development.

Ms. Tembo served previously as the Executive Director of the multi-donor funded Enhanced Integrated Framework Programme (EIF) based at the World Trade Organisation from October 2008 to 2013. During her tenure, she spearheaded the re-launch of the programme supporting at the time 48 least developed countries (LDCs) in addressing their trade-related technical assistance and supply side constraints.

From 2004 to 2008, she served as Chief Trade Negotiator and Director of Foreign Trade in the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry of Zambia.



### **Johanna Tornstrom**

Assistant Programme Manager, World Customs Organization

Johanna Tornstrom has worked at the WCO since February 2016 on the HMRC-WCO-UNCTAD Programme and is currently Assistant Programme Manager.

Before joining the WCO, she worked 4 years as a Policy Officer in charge of Gender Equality at the Council of European Municipalities and Regions in Brussels and as an intern at UNESCO and the French Red Cross in Paris.

Johanna holds a bachelor in Economics from the University of Gothenburg in Sweden and a Master in Economics and Risk Management from the University of Sorbonne in Paris.



### **Rosine Uwamaliya**

Commissioner of Customs, Rwanda Revenue Authority

Rosine Uwamaliya has 15 years of experience in Rwanda Customs. Currently, she is the Commissioner for Customs Services Department, a position she has held since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018.

Before joining this position, she worked at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in the Division of Trade Logistics.

She is a (WCO) accredited Mercator program advisor

She holds a Masters Degree in Customs Administration from the University of Canberra.

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