

CONCEPT NOTE

Seminar on “Trade, Development, and Law” In the Context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Financing for Development

It is widely acknowledged that outcomes of the consultations on Post-2015 Development Agenda and intergovernmental negotiations on Financing for Development will play a central role in shaping development thinking in the coming years. The ability to adequately finance the Post-2015 Development Agenda depends on global development cooperation, domestic resource mobilization, private sector engagement, and well-functioning legal frameworks.

International trade can play a driving role in hatching the egg of the Post-2015 era, as it is highlighted as a primary means of mobilizing resources and a powerful engine for sustainable development and poverty alleviation especially for developing countries. As such, trade can catalyze, support and supplement many of the sustainable financing instruments proposed in the intergovernmental negotiations on Financing for Development. The establishment of a truly universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable trading system is a key way to expand markets, connect the poor to them, and prevent flights to protectionism. Participating in international trade can widen the economic space needed to create new job opportunities; promote efficient use of resources; increase access to food, energy and basic services; and improve productive, managerial and entrepreneurial capacity required for economic diversification, growth and development.

At the same time, to deliver results on the ground and sustain healthy cycles of investment, production and consumption, trade and investment must be linked to markets that function efficiently and fairly at the global level. As recognized in the Financing for Development negotiations, effective policy frameworks and laws are essential to attract investment and stimulate entrepreneurship in international markets and the global economy. The significance of legal engagement in trade can also be found in the Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, in which States recognized the importance of fair, stable and predictable legal frameworks for generating inclusive, sustainable and equitable development, economic growth and employment, generating investment and facilitating entrepreneurship (resolution 67/1, para. 8). A well-adjusted legal framework, at both international and domestic levels, can provide legal certainty, decrease commercial risks and transaction costs, and build confidence in doing business domestically and across borders, which should in turn stimulate commerce and the flow of investment, development and financing.

Effective policy and legal frameworks at the national and international levels are needed to steer economies to cleaner production, ensure an equitable sharing of trade's benefits, protect the environment, and prevent cultural erosion. In addition to these benefits, structuring good governance for trade and development with the fundamental bases of a harmonized and modernized legal framework can have positive impacts on economic, environmental and social systems. Given the central role of the global economy's pillars of trade, development and law, it

is critical that final negotiations result in outcomes that give due weight to these pillars so that sustainable and inclusive development can be achieved globally, across and within countries.

All in all, “Trade, Development, and Law” deserves to receive the utmost attention in the consultations and negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Financing for Development. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of Italy, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia, UNCTAD, the UNCITRAL Secretariat, and the Chair of the 47th Session of the UNCITRAL intend to enhance awareness on the significance of the aforementioned three pillars.

After the opening remarks by **H.E. Mr. Oh Joon**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, and welcoming remarks by **Mr. Stephen Mathias**, Assistant Secretary-General, Office of Legal Affairs, this seminar stretches its step to explore trailblazing discussions on:

- Trade and Law;
- Trade and Development; and
- Trade, Development, and Law in Post-2015 Development Agenda & FfD

Trade and Law, Session I, will be moderated by **H.E. Mr. Inigo Lambertini**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations and presented by the distinguished panelists, **Mr. Timothy Lemay**, Principal Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat; **Mr. Muna Ndulo**, Professor of Law, Cornell Law School; and **Mr. Edric Selous**, Director, UN Rule of Law Unit.

Trade and Development, Session II, will be moderated by **H.E. Mr. Vladimir Drobnjak**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations, and presented by the distinguished panelists, **Mr. Robert Hamwey**, Representative of UNCTAD; **Ms. Judit Arenas**, Director - External Relations, Deputy Permanent Observer to the United Nations, IDLO; and **Ms. Alice Tipping**, Senior Programme Officer, ICTSD.

Trade, Development, and Law in Post-2015 Development Agenda & FfD, Session III, will be moderated by **H.E. Mr. Hahn Choong-hee**, Chair of the 47th Session of the UNCITRAL, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea, and presented by the distinguished panelists, **Mr. Lenni Montiel**, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, UNDESA; and **Mr. Pedro Conceição**, Director, Strategic Policy at BPPS, UNDP.

The meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 23 June 2015, from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm at *Diplomat Ballroom, Millennium Hotel, One United Nations Plaza (on 44th street, between 1st & 2nd Avenues***). A luncheon will be served after the seminar.

This event is sure to provide participants with a good opportunity to share experiences and opinions with experts on trade, development, and law in the Context of the Consultations and Negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

Programme

10:00-10:30 (30 min)	<u>Registration</u> Coffee and light refreshments will be served.
10:30-10:40 (10 min)	<u>Opening</u> Opening remarks by H.E. Mr. Oh Joon , Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations Welcoming remarks by Mr. Stephen Mathias , Assistant Secretary-General, Office of Legal Affairs
10:40-11:30 (50 min)	<u>Session I: “Trade and Law”</u> Moderator: H.E. Mr. Inigo Lambertini , Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Timothy Lemay, Principal Legal Officer, UNCITRAL Secretariat - Mr. Muna Ndulo, Professor of Law, Cornell Law School - Mr. Edric Selous, Director, UN Rule of Law Unit Followed by interactive discussions and Q&A
11:30-12:20 (50 min)	<u>Session II: “Trade and Development”</u> Moderator: H.E. Mr. Vladimir Drobnyak , Permanent Representative of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Robert Hamwey, Representative of UNCTAD - Ms. Judit Arenas, Director - External Relations, Deputy Permanent Observer to the United Nations, IDLO - Ms. Alice Tipping, Senior Programme Officer, ICTSD Followed by interactive discussions and Q&A
12:20-13:00 (40 min)	<u>Session III: “Trade, Development, and Law in Post-2015 Development Agenda and FfD”</u> Moderator: H.E. Mr. Hahn Choong-hee , Chair of the 47 th Session of the UNCITRAL, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Lenni Montiel, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, UNDESA - Mr. Pedro Conceição, Director, Strategic Policy at BPPS, UNDP Followed by interactive discussions and Q&A
13:00-14:30 (90 min)	<u>Luncheon</u>