



UNCTAD XIII

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

DOHA - QATAR 21-26 APRIL 2012



SPECIAL EVENT

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK OF EXIMBANKS & DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS, G-NEXID

20 APRIL 2012, 9.00 – 12 noon

BACKGROUND

Trade-financing facilities have represented an important source of finance for developing countries, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in particular. During the global financial and economic crises, trade financing became unavailable or expensive. In order to counteract the negative effects of the crisis on trade finance and investment, Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) and Export-Import (Exim) Banks in the South evolved innovative financing mechanisms to support trade and investment flows in developing countries. Other initiatives include the proposed BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism.

The Global Network of Eximbanks and Development Finance Institutions (G-NEXID) played and continues to play a significant role in facilitating cooperation among Exim banks and DFIs based in developing countries and economies in transition, as well as between G-NEXID and international development agencies. Such cooperative endeavours help to reduce the costs associated with cross-border trade and investment flows. The Network has served as a global forum for these institutions to promote trade financing and project development finance through cooperation and joint technical assistance activities, foster creativity and research, provide networking opportunities, and facilitate the exchange of information on best practices in cross-border trade and project finance.

The G-NEXID represents an example of how cooperation and partnerships through North-South, South-South, and triangular cooperation could effectively work to support global trade and investment.

The Network was officially launched in March 2006 with the support of UNCTAD and currently has more than 20 members. The Honorary President of G-NEXID is Mr. Jean Louis Ekra, President and Chairman of the African Export-Import Bank.

Cooperation between G-NEXID and UNCTAD was formally established by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions on 19 September 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Members of G-NEXID meet annually to deliberate on issues of relevance to the growth of the Network, including among others, funding of the activities of the association, membership mobilisation, creation of a platform for the sharing of credit information, and other matters relating to consolidation of the activities of the Network. The conclusions of these annual meetings of the Network are usually presented at the Annual Sessions of UNCTAD's Trade and Development Commission.

PURPOSE

The Seventh Annual Meeting of G-NEXID is scheduled to be held on 20 April 2012 in Doha, Qatar, on the eve of the UNCTAD XIII Conference.

The event will provide an opportunity for G-NEXID members to share experiences and take stock of the progress made by the Network since the last Annual Meeting held in Lisbon, in 2011. Specifically, the meeting will review progress in terms of cooperation among members as well as cooperation between members of the Network and international development agencies.

The meeting will also review current measures for addressing cross-border investment and trade-financing needs of developing countries and propose new policies and programmes that could be deployed to strengthen the work of the Network in that regard.

OUTCOME

The Annual Meeting of G-NEXID will discuss policy strategies, national experiences and concrete initiatives to support cross-border trade and investment flows in the developing world within the framework of South - South cooperation.

A report on the outcome of the meeting will be presented to UNCTAD XIII Panel 3 on strengthening all forms of cooperation and partnership for trade and development, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, to be held on 24 April 2012.

ORGANIZATION

Participants include G-NEXID members, including DFIs, Exim Banks, and other development partners. On this occasion, some observer institutions interested in knowing more about the role and opportunities offered by G-NEXID will be participating in the meeting in the spirit of South – South cooperation.

AGENDA

The G-NEXID Annual Meeting will review developments of the Network since the Sixth Annual Meeting (held in Lisbon, Portugal, 2011) and other internal matters. The meeting will also discuss membership issues, the database project, the work programme for 2012/2013 and G-NEXID capacity-building activities. These include proposals for seminars and workshops, and lessons from staff attachments/exchange activities between members.

For more information
www.unctadxiii.org
unctadxiii@unctad.org

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CONTACT:

African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank):

Mr. Jean-Louis Ekra (Honorary President of G-NEXID), President and Chairman
Tel.: (202) 24564100/1/2/3, E-mail: President's Office jlekra@afreximbank.com

Mr. Francis Mbroh, Director, Research, Planning and International Cooperation
Tel.: (202) 24564100/1/2/3, E-mail: fmbroh@afreximbank.com

Ms. Djeneba Ouadeba, Coordinator

Global Network of Export-Import Banks and Development Finance Institutions, G-NEXID
Tel.: + 41 22 791 67 17, E-mail: d.ouadeba@gnexid.com, contact@gnexid.com, website: www.gnexid.org

UNCTAD Focal Point

Ms. Ana María Álvarez, Economic Affairs Officer
Office of the Director, Division of International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities (DITC)
Tel.: +41 229175498, ana.maria.alvarez@unctad.org