

**PROGRAMME
OF THE THIRD WORKSHOP FOR THE NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS
OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES**

Venue: Palais de Nations, Room XX, United Nations Office in Geneva

18 July, Tuesday, afternoon

- 13.00 – 15.00 **Registration of participants**
- 15.00 – 15.10 **Opening of the workshop. Orientation on the work programme.**
- Ms. Zamira Eshmambetova, Senior Programme Officer, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)*
- 15.10 – 15.20 **Welcoming address by Mr. Oussou Edouard Aho-Glele, Chairman of the LDC Group Coordination Bureau, Benin**
- 15.20 – 15.40 **Briefing on the preparations for the High-Level Meeting on the global comprehensive midterm review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010.**
- Mr. Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States*
- 15.40 – 16.30 **Implementation of the Programme of Action: a way forward**
- Discussion on the roles and responsibilities of the National Focal Points and national forums of the LDCs in the implementation of the Brussels Programme over the next 5 years
- UN-OHRLLS*
- 16.30 – 18.00 **Promotion of employment and decent work in LDCs**
- Creating employment opportunities and decent work is the greatest challenge faced by the LDCs which have youngest populations in the world. Since most of the people of the working age in LDCs are employed in the informal sector specific policies and measures should be adopted to expand the formal sector and integrate

informal enterprises in formal economy through their access to credit, information, and technology while extending labour standards and social protection to the informal economy and creating an enabling environment for establishing and operating a business.

Mr. Graeme Buckley, Senior Specialist, Enterprise and Private Sector Policy, Job Creation and Enterprise Development Department, International Labour Organization (ILO)

19 July, Wednesday, morning

10.00 – 11.30

Building productive capacities of LDCs

This segment will focus on productive capacities of LDCs and the role of productive capacities in poverty reduction. It will analyze recent trends in the development of productive capacities in the LDCs and identify national and international policies necessary to facilitate the development of productive capacities of the LDCs. It will also explore the implications of current trends and policies for the further implementation of the Brussels Programme over the next 5 years.

Mr. Charles Gore, Chief, Research and Policy Analysis, Special Programme on Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

11.30 – 13.00

LDCs trade issues in the WTO

The Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference held in Hong Kong, China, from 13 to 18 December 2005, marked a step forward towards the successful conclusion of the Doha round of negotiations launched in 2001. At Hong Kong, WTO Members emphasized the central importance of the development dimension in every aspect of the Doha Development Agenda (DDA). Concrete decisions have been taken to advance the DDA including a number of decisions that directly relate to LDCs or address LDC concerns.

At Hong Kong, Ministers further agreed to continue to implement the WTO Work Programme for LDCs. This Work Programme is the main platform through which the specific issues of interest to LDCs are being considered by Members. Mainstreaming of trade-related elements of the Programme of Action of the LDCs for the Decade 2001-2010 into the work of WTO is one of the elements of that Work Programme. Other elements of the Work Programme for LDCs are market access for LDCs; trade-related technical assistance

and capacity building initiatives for LDCs; providing, as appropriate, support to agencies assisting with the diversification of LDCs' production and export base; participation of LDCs in the multilateral trading system; accession of LDCs to the WTO; and, follow-up to WTO Ministerial Decisions/Declarations.

Ms. Annet Blank, Counselor, Head, LDC Unit Development Division, the World Trade Organization (WTO)

19 July, Wednesday, afternoon

15.00 – 16.30

Role of energy in achieving the objectives of the Brussels Programme

This segment of the workshop will focus on the energy aspects of the Brussels Programme and provide an overview of the World Bank's strategy and action plan in this area, in particular of the Africa Energy Programme.

While energy is a key infrastructure engine of development, Africa continues lagging behind other regions in this area. The core energy challenges in Africa are access to energy services and security of energy supply.

The World Bank is aggressively seeking to support significant scale-up of access, to ensure affordable, reliable, and sustainable supplies of energy services, as part of broader efforts to stimulate growth, reduce poverty, and promote inclusiveness.

Mr. Mac Cosgrove-Davis, Senior Energy Specialist, Africa Energy Sector Unit, the World Bank (WB)

16.30 – 18.00

The challenge of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in LDCs

Although TB is a curable and preventable disease, 8.8 million new TB cases occur and 1.7 million die in the world every year. Particularly high is the TB incidence in Africa. The Global Plan to Stop TB 2006-2015 and a new Stop TB Strategy aim at scaling up international efforts to "halt by 2015 and begin to reverse the incidence of TB" (MDG). They target the treatment of about 50 million people, including 800,000 patients with multidrug resistant TB and the enrollment of about 3 million HIV and TB patients in ART. The implementation of this Plan would be an important step towards a TB-free-world.

Dr. Pierre Norval, TB Strategy and Health Systems, Stop TB Department

It was estimated that there were 38.6 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the world at the end of 2005. Since 1981, more than 25 million people have died of HIV/AIDS, including 2.8 million in 2005. Sub-Saharan Africa remains the hardest-hit region with 24.5 million people with HIV (63% of the global burden) and the epidemics in Eastern Europe and East Asia are growing rapidly.

The five-year WHO plan will provide support to countries in scaling-up their national HIV/AIDS responses within the context of striving towards universal access. WHO's support to countries will promote a comprehensive health sector response to HIV/AIDS based on an essential package of health interventions for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care, while at the same time contributing to the broader strengthening of health systems. WHO will invest in five strategic directions where it has a clear mandate and comparative advantage for its contribution to the universal access process: 1) enabling people to safely know their HIV status through HIV testing and counseling; 2) maximizing the health sector's contribution to HIV prevention; 3) accelerating the scale-up of HIV/AIDS treatment and care; 4) strengthening and expanding health systems and 5) strategic information to guide a more effective response

*Dr. Mazuwa Banda, Regional and Country Coordination,
Department of HIV/AIDS.*

The World Health Organization (WHO)

18.00

Closing