SPEAKERS

ROBERT SKIDMORE
International Trade Centre (ITC)

Mr. Rob Skidmore is Chief of the Sector Competitiveness section at the International Trade Centre where he manages a team responsible for promoting sector-wide transformation in a range of goods and services sectors. The section specializes in services, agri-food, light manufacturing, cotton to clothing and fibre, trade and environment and linking poor communities to global value chains. In services, his work focuses on export promotion and trade intelligence with sectoral specialization in tourism and IT and IT enabled services. Before joining ITC he worked at a number of US-based consulting firms including PricewaterhouseCoopers, Development Alternatives Incorporated and Abt Associates. He holds a Masters Degree in International Economics from Johns Hopkins SAIS and a Bachelor’s degree in Latin American history from the University of Wisconsin.

ANDREA SPEAR
Trade and Investment Development Adviser

Ms Andrea Spear has been working in international trade, investment, public sector reform, and private sector development for more than three decades. In recent years, she has been working with LDCs and economies in transition on trade, investment, competitiveness and business environment reform. Before that, she held a variety of senior positions in the Australian Government, including four years in Geneva as lead negotiator for Services and Singapore Issues at the Australian Mission to the WTO. She also spent four years as Regional Adviser for Trade and Investment Policy at the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific on secondment from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Before entering public service, she was Strategic Planning Coordinator at an Australian multinational company with transport, distribution, logistics, security and healthcare operations in 18 countries. She spent the first 12 years of her career with Business

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International Trade Centre (ITC)

Ms Spear has a Licenciatura magna cum laude in Latin American Studies and Development Socioeconomics from the Universidad de las Américas in Mexico, and additional post-graduate studies in management, public administration, trade policy, trade law, international business, and negotiating. She has written many articles and publications on negotiating, trade and investment development, and aid effectiveness issues.

RUDOLF ADLUNG
Trade Policy Analyst

Rudolf Adlung currently works as a private trade policy analyst with a focus on services trade. After graduating from Basel University (MA and PhD in economics), he gained his first professional experience at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW) and, from 1980, the German Ministry of Economics.

In 1990, he joined the then GATT Secretariat. From 1997 until retirement in early 2014 he served as senior economist in the WTO’s Trade in Services Division. In this capacity, he was involved in the preparation of documents dealing with the economics of services trade and the ongoing negotiations. He also oversaw the Division’s technical assistance activities and participated in numerous services-related conferences and symposia.

JOY KATEKEKWA
World Trade Organization (WTO)

Dr. Joy Katekekwa is an international trade and development law and policy specialist. She works with the WTO- where she leads the organization’s support to African delegations in the DDA negotiations, services negotiations on strengthening development-related provisions in WTO Agreements, and the Sub-committee on LDCs- where core issues of concern, including on market access, are discussed. Prior to joining the WTO, she worked with Oxfam International, leading advisory work, research and advocacy on trade and investment issues in multilateral and regional trade negotiations. At the South Centre, she led technical support to developing countries in the GATS negotiations; and at the Permanent Mission of Uganda- she, inter alia, led negotiations on the part of LDCs in her capacity as focal point in the areas of intellectual property and services.

She received her Ph. D in international trade law from the University of Berne (specialization in trade in services), her LL.M in international trade and investment law from the University of the Western Cape and her LL.B from Makerere University. She has published widely on services trade and development law and policy.

ADRIAN NJAU
East African Business Council (EABC)

Economist Against Poverty (ILEAP) Fellow in charge of co-ordinating the Council’s work on Trade in Services. Currently he is acting as focal point on services related issues with EAC Partner States at the Council. As Trade Economist, Adrian also serve as a Liaison for the EABC, Partner States, ITC and other development partners working on Trade in Services issues.

Prior to this Adrian has worked with Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) as Policy Analyst for 7 years from 2002 to 2008. Before joining CTI, Adrian used to work with The Business Times- a weekly business newspaper in Tanzania as Business Editor for two years from 2000 to 2002. Adrian holds a BA (Hons) Economics and Masters in International Trade both obtained from University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
the ESF members both towards European and international institutions and towards professional networks.

On behalf of ESF, Mr. Kerneis is a member of the Civil Society Dialogue’s Contact Group of the DG Trade of the European Commission. As a member of the European Commission Civil Society Advisers Group, Mr. Kerneis participated at the three WTO Ministerial Conferences (Seattle – 1999, Doha – 2002, Cancun – 2003, Hong-Kong – 2005) as Advisor to the EU Trade Commissioners Pascal Lamy and Peter Mandelson in the European Commission official delegations.

He is now a well-recognized expert on International Trade in Services and is regularly invited as a speaker for Forums, hearings or summits organized inter alia by the European Parliament or Chambers of Commerce abroad.

PASCAL KERNEIS
European Services Forum (ESF)

Pascal Kerneis has served as Managing Director since ESF’s creation, in 1999. He is in charge of running the ESF Secretariat on a daily basis.

Pascal Kerneis is a lawyer specialized in European Law. Having completed his Ph. D. thesis on International Trade and European Law, in 1990, Pascal started his career as a legal expert for the European Commission. After having joined the European Banking Federation, he was closely involved in the WTO negotiations on financial services. In December 1997, in Geneva, he participated in the private financial services industry’s effort to help the negotiators achieving a comprehensive agreement, with substantial commitments for the banking sector.

Mr. Kerneis was appointed Managing Director of ESF at the launching meeting of the organisation in January 1999. Since then, he has been able to raise ESF’s profile by advocating the further liberalization of services, and by developing close working relationships with EU and WTO officials. Pascal represents

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LDC SERVICES GENEVA PRACTITIONERS SEMINAR SERIES
Seminar 5: Services in Bilateral, Regional and Plurilateral Negotiations: Implications for LDCs
Room B, World Trade Organization (WTO)
154 Rue de Lausanne, 1211 Geneva

MARTIN GASASIRA
Rwanda Development Board (RDB)

Martin GASASIRA holds a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the National University of Rwanda. Currently he is working on completion of an International Action Learning MBA from Business School Netherlands.

Martin GASASIRA has been working with Rwandan Development Board since its inception in 2009. Prior to that, he was working with former Rwanda Investment and Export Promotion Agency (RIEPA) since 2006. Currently he works as Senior Trade Development Officer in the Export and Business Development department of RDB, specifically charged with export promotional activities.

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