

MOBILIZING AID FOR TRADE: FOCUS ASIA-PACIFIC

WORKSHOP ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND AID FOR TRADE

18 SEPTEMBER, 2007

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK HEADQUARTERS

MANILA - THE PHILIPPINES

PROGRAMME

8:45 – 9:00 **REGISTRATION**

9:00 – 9:15 **OPENING**

Mr. Stephen Browne, Deputy Executive Director, International Trade Center (ITC)

Mr. Lalith Goonatilake, Director, Trade Capacity Building Branch, UNIDO

9:15 – 11:00 **SESSION 1: ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR IN FORMULATION OF TRADE POLICY AND REGULATIONS**

The governments are increasingly involving the private sector in the formulation and implementation of trade policy for (i) better diagnosis of the problems and design of appropriate trade policy reform for creating a business friendly environment, (ii) making policy reforms easier to implement by promoting better understanding of the reform package, (iii) building an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding between public and private sectors and (iv) promoting transparency and good governance. In developing countries the private sector has too often been left out of the trade and development debate. As a result, the private sector in many countries lacks awareness of the benefits and consequences of trade liberalization. Often inadequately informed about the public sector initiatives, the private sector has little influence on the development of national trade policies and regulations. Outreach activities, awareness raising and capacity building are, therefore, important activities in this context.

Panel Discussion:

How private sector groups, and particularly those representing SME interests, can be empowered to articulate and express their views, make proposals and monitor the public policy-making, institution building and project planning.

The panellists might focus on the following questions:

- Why is it important for the private sector to be involved in formulating trade policy?
- How can private sector involvement improve the design and implementation of trade policy?
- How can the private sector leverage international organizations to influence trade policy?
- What are the success models in private sector involvement?



Moderator: International Trade Center

Panelists:

Mr. Raja Abdul Aziz Raja Musa

Vice President and Chairman

Customs Committee, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers Wisma (FMM), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr. Muhammad Akber Sheikh

Chairman

WTO Committee of Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry-LCCI, Pakistan

Ms. Tatyana Zhdanova

Vice-President

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Mr. Someth Suos

Former Ambassador of Cambodia to the WTO

11:00 –11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 -13:00

SESSION 2: ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR IN BUILDING TRADE RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE

Public-Private partnerships in building trade related infrastructure come in many forms. For example, an enterprise group, composed of public and private interests, produces a public service for profit. These include build, own and operate (BOO) and build, operate and transfer (BOT) schemes for the development of trade related infrastructure, such as road networks, airports, ports etc. It may also include partnerships such as, the joint management of a cold storage at the airport with the equity put into the venture by the partners being paid through user fees, or partnerships for the delivery of “public” services like the customs through establishing a single window for imports and exports.

Panel Discussion:

Issues that can be addressed are:

- What are the key factors, which trigger, help design and successfully execute the joint ventures of this type?
- Were regulatory changes necessary to facilitate the creation or the operation of the partnership?
- Do aid agencies or development finance institutions have a role in promoting such services or participating in them as partners, sponsors or facilitators? Was any such agency involved in the specific case?



Moderator: International Trade Center

Panelists:

Mr. Romulo S. Quimbo Jr.

Vice President,
Legal and Regulatory Affairs, Manila North Tollways Corporation, Philippines

Mr. Sorajak Kasemsuvan

Executive Director
International Institute of Trade and Development, Bangkok, Thailand

Ms. Tiziana Bonapace

Chief, Trade Policy Section, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Mr. Edgardo Q. Abesamis

Executive Vice President
International Container Terminal Services, Inc (ICTSI), Manila, Philippines (tbc)

13:00 – 15:00

Lunch break

15:00 – 17:00

SESSION 3: SMES OVERCOMING SUPPLY SIDE CONSTRAINTS

Moderator: International Trade Center

Brief Presentations

Mr. Siphana Sok, Director, Division of Technical Cooperation Coordination, ITC

Overview of ITC activities in helping SMEs develop the skills and capacities to be competitive in global markets. It will be illustrated through specific case studies of provision of such services directly to the enterprises or by strengthening the trade promotion institutions. ITC clients would be invited to contribute to the discussion.

Mr. Lalith Goonatilake, Director, Trade Capacity Building Branch, UNIDO, Vienna

Overview of UNIDO supply capacity development and conformity development activities such as agro-industry development, value chain approach, cluster and export consortia development, and the support provided to achieve compliance with TBT/SPS driven market requirements, in particular supporting exporters to comply with stringent safety and quality standards and technical regulations.

Discussion

Mr. Sambuu Demberel

Chairman & CEO
Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry-MNCCI, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Mr. Surendra Bir Malakar

President
Nepal Chamber of Commerce, Kathmandu, Nepal



International Trade Centre
UNCTAD / WTO

Mr. Cachapum Sirichanachai
David & Louise Co., Ltd., Bangkok, Thailand

Mrs. Pham Thi Thu Hang
Director, Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion Center
Director, Enterprises Development Foundation
Vice- Chairwoman, Women Entrepreneurs Council
Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hanoi, Vietnam

Mrs. Chanthao Pathammavong
Executive Board Director of LNCCI, Chairperson of Committee for Trade, Investment and SMEs
Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Lao PDR

17:00 - 17:30

CONCLUDING REMARKS:

Mr. Stephen Browne, Deputy Executive Director, ITC
