Fourth Virtual Capacity Building Workshop: Investment Facilitation for Development: Looking Back and Looking Forward

11 December 2020

PROGRAMME

This 4th Virtual Capacity Building Workshop: Investment Facilitation for Development: Looking Back and Looking Forward is organised in the framework of the Investment Facilitation for Development project, jointly implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE).

This virtual workshop will take place on 11 December 2020, from 15:00 to 16:30 Geneva time (Central European Time), 09:00 to 10:30 Eastern Standard Time, and 21:00 to 22:30 China Standard Time.

The workshop is meant to make an input into the WTO negotiations of an investment facilitation framework for development (IFF4D). It will provide an analysis of the state of play in the negotiations as regards to what has been achieved so far, while reflecting on key issues that should be considered in further working on an IFF4D, to achieve a broadly acceptable outcome by member states. It seeks to facilitate joint learning and capacity building among delegates, government officials, as well as technical experts.

The workshop is open to all WTO delegates and government representatives from capitals, as well as representatives from investment promotion agencies, the private sector and civil society.

We are aiming to make the workshop as participatory as possible. You will have the option of sending written questions/observations to the panelists during the meeting, by clicking on the “chat” button of the Zoom window and typing your question/comment.

PROGRAMME

15:00 – 15:10 Opening
Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
Yi Xiaozhun, Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization

15:10 – 15:20 Keynote
Otunba Adeniyi Adebayo, Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
15:20 – 16:28 What has been achieved, obstacles and the way forward

Chair Karl P. Sauvant, Resident Senior Fellow, Columbia University/Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment

Speakers Mathias Francke, Ambassador-designate of Chile to the WTO, Coordinator of the Structured Discussions on Investment Facilitation for Development, “An assessment”

Zhang Xiangchen, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of China to the WTO and coordinator of the Friends of Investment Facilitation Group

Usha Chandnee Dwarka-Canabady, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the WTO

Luiz Cesar Gasser, Ambassador and Director at the Department of Services and Industry Promotion at the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Hiddo Houben, Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to the WTO

Grata Endah Werdaningtyas, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the UN, WTO and other International Organizations in Geneva

Discussion starters Makane Moïse Mbengue, Professor and Director of the Department of Public International Law and International Organization at the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva

Michelle Ratton Sanchez Badin, Professor, Getulio Vargas Foundation, Brazil

Matthew Stephenson, Policy and Community Lead, International Trade and Investment, World Economic Forum

16:28 – 16:30 Concluding remarks

Anna-Katharina Hornidge, Director, German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungs politik

Background material

The reports on the earlier capacity building workshops, the Expert Network and Commentary Group meetings and the general public webinars are available here: https://www.intracen.org/itc/Investment-Facilitation-for-Development/.

“What have we learned in the framework of a project on Investment Facilitation for Development: A summary”, available here.

Bios

Otunba Adeniyi Adebayo

Following his inauguration by President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, on 21 August 2019, Otunba Richard Adeniyi Adebayo, CON, became Nigeria’s 40th Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment to oversee the government’s goal of economic diversification to non-oil revenue earnings. As the number one investment driver of Nigeria, Mr. Adebayo is leading the promotion of the government’s policies regarding ease of doing business, job creation, poverty eradication, industrialization, the standardization of bilateral trade agreements, stimulating the growth of domestic micro, small and medium-size enterprises, and a renewed roadmap to increase Nigeria’s FDI.

Pamela Coke-Hamilton

Pamela Coke-Hamilton has served as Executive Director of the International Trade Centre since 1 October 2020. She joined ITC from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, where she was Director of the Division on International Trade and Commodities. She served with the Jamaican Government, the Caribbean Forum in trade negotiations, and multilateral institutions, including the Organization of American States and InterAmerican Development Bank. She previously served as Executive Director of the Caribbean Export Development Agency, strengthening the private sector and MSMEs through investment promotion. She holds a Juris Doctor in Law from the Georgetown University School of Law in Washington, DC.

Usha Chandnee Dwarka-Canabady

Usha Chandnee Dwarka-Canabady is currently the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva. Prior to this appointment, Ambassador Dwarka-Canabady was, since November 2015, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Mauritius, after having been acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs between April 2013 and October 2015. She was also Head of the Multilateral Economic Directorate (January 2007 to March 2013) and Head of the Multilateral Political Department (May 2006 to January 2007) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Regional Integration in Port-Louis, Mauritius.

Mathias Francke

Mathias Francke is Coordinator of the Structured Discussions on Investment Facilitation for Development and the 2019 APEC SOM Chair. Previously, he was Director General for Multilateral Economic Affairs, Director for Bilateral Economic Affairs, Chief of Cabinet, and senior advisor at the Chilean Vice Minister of Trade. As a Foreign Service officer since 1989, he was posted in the Chilean UK embassy (2014 to 2018), Chile’s Permanent Mission to the WTO (2000 to 2005, and as Deputy Head of Mission from 2006 to 2010) and the Trade Office of the Chilean Embassy to the USA (1992 to 1996). He is a lawyer from the Catholic University of Chile and has a graduate degree from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.
Luiz Cesar Gasser
Luiz Cesar Gasser is a career diplomat. He is currently director at the Department of Services and Industry Promotion at the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He graduated in law and has been working on services and investment issues for the past three decades. He was posted in Beijing, Geneva (Mission to the WTO), Asunción, Brussels (Mission to the EU), and Dublin.

Anna-Katharina Hornidge
Anna-Katharina Hornidge is Director of the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE) and Professor for Global Sustainable Development at the University of Bonn. Before joining DIE in March 2020, she was Professor of Social Sciences in the Marine Tropics at the University of Bremen and Head of Department “Social Sciences” and the research group “Development and Knowledge Sociology” at the Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) in Bremen. From 2006 to 2015, she worked as Senior Researcher for the Centre for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn, where she held the position of Professor and Director in the Department of Social and Cultural Change from 2014 to 2015.

Hiddo Houben
Hiddo Houben has been Deputy Permanent Representative of the Mission of the European Union to the WTO since September 2020. He was previously head of the division responsible for trade and investment relations with the US and Canada in the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission. During that period, he was the EU’s deputy chief negotiator for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership talks with the US. Prior to that, he was based in Washington DC as the Head of the economic section of the EU embassy. Mr. Houben joined the European Commission in 1989 and participated in the global trade negotiations of the Uruguay Round which created the WTO in 1995.

Makane Moïse Mbengue
Makane Moïse Mbengue is Professor and Director of the Department of Public International Law and International Organization at the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva. He is also an Affiliated Professor at Sciences Po Paris (School of Law). Mr. Mbengue is the President of the African Society of International Law. He was the Lead Expert for the negotiations and drafting of the Pan-African Investment Code (PAIC) in the context of the African Union and is involved in several investment negotiations across Africa. Mr. Mbengue acts as counsel in disputes before international courts and tribunals (in particular the International Court of Justice) and as arbitrator and expert in investment arbitration proceedings.

Michelle Ratton Sanchez Badin
Michelle Ratton Sanchez Badin is assistant professor at FGV São Paulo School of Law (Brazil) and its Law and Development postgraduate programme. She is the coordinator of the FGV/SP Center of Global Law and Development; co-coordinator of the WTO Chair in Brazil; director of the Red Latinoamericana de Derecho Económico Internacional and the Brazilian chapter of the International Law Association; and founding member of the SIEL. Her most recent book (with F. C. Morosini) is Reconceptualizing International Investment Law from the Global South (Cambridge University Press, 2017).
Karl P. Sauvant

Karl P. Sauvant introduced the idea of an International Support Program for Sustainable Investment Facilitation in the E15 Task Force on Investment Policy in 2015. From there, the proposal was taken forward in the WTO. He has written extensively on this subject (see https://ssrn.com/author=2461782), participated in various events relating to it, and currently assists the ITC and DIE on a project on Investment Facilitation for Development. He retired in 2005 as Director of UNCTAD’s Investment Division and established, in 2006, what is now the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI). He stepped down as the Center’s Executive Director in 2012, to focus his work, as a CCSI Resident Senior Fellow, on teaching, research and writing.

Matthew Stephenson

Matthew Stephenson is Policy and Community Lead for International Trade and Investment at the World Economic Forum, where he manages the Global Investment Policy and Practice initiative. Previously, he worked at the IFC, where he led the workstream on outward FDI. He has also worked at the OECD on Africa and investment and served as a diplomat for the U.S. Department of State, leading the economic team on Afghanistan and managing economic programmes in the Middle East. He is a member of the T20 Task Force on Trade and Investment. He has a PhD from the Graduate Institute in Geneva, a master's from the Harvard Kennedy School and a bachelor's from Oxford University.

Grata Endah Werdaningtyas

Grata Endah Werdaningtyas is the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia in Geneva and is Charge d’Affaires of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia. Prior to this assignment, she served as the Director for International Security and Disarmament at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As the Deputy Permanent Representative, she supports the Permanent Representative in overviewing all policy matters related to Indonesia’s cooperation with various multilateral organizations in Geneva.

Zhang Xiangchen

Zhang Xiangchen serves as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People’s Republic of China to the WTO. Prior to his current position, he was Deputy China International Trade Representative (Vice-Minister’s level) of the Ministry of Commerce of China (MOFCOM), from 2015 to 2017, Assistant Minister of MOFCOM from 2013 to 2015, Director-General of the Policy Research Department of MOFCOM from 2011 to 2013, Minister and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of China to the WTO from 2008 to 2011, and Director-General of the Department of WTO Affairs of MOFCOM from 2005 to 2008.

Yi Xiaozhun

Yi Xiaozhun has been a Deputy Director-General at the WTO since October 2013. He has extensive experience in world trade and economics, both as a senior government official and subsequently as China's ambassador to the WTO. He represented China as a key negotiator in China’s WTO accession process, making an important contribution to the negotiations. Prior to becoming China's ambassador to the WTO in 2011, Mr. Yi was Assistant Minister and subsequently China's Vice Minister of Commerce in charge of multilateral and regional trade
negotiations and cooperation. Besides his contribution to China’s WTO accession, he played a leading role in negotiating numerous free trade agreements.