



## Beyond Istanbul

### Challenges after the UNLDC IV and Trade Preferences for LDCs

28 June 2011

Centre William Rappard, WTO, Room E

#### AGENDA

##### 09:30-10:00 Registration

The Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA), adopted at the fourth UN LDC conference, aims at helping the world's poorest countries combat poverty during the upcoming decade. But what does the IPoA really mean for LDCs? Where is further work needed and what can be done about possible weaknesses? Panelists will address these questions, assess the importance of the measures within the IPoA, and identify the monitoring and follow up measures to improve the influence of the IPoA for LDCs.

Chair: Miguel Rodriguez Mendoza, Senior Fellow, ICTSD

##### 10h00-11h15 Assessing the Istanbul Programme of Action

Panelists: Ana Luiza Cortez, Secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy, UNDESA  
Dinesh Bhattarai, Ambassador of Nepal to WTO  
Ender Saritekin, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Turkey to WTO  
Magdi Farahat, Principal Advisor on Trade, UNECA

11h15- 11h30 Coffee

##### 11h30-13h00 Monitoring & follow up actions

Panelists: Debapriya Bhattacharya, Former Ambassador of Bangladesh to WTO  
Mothae Anthony Maruping, Ambassador of Lesotho to WTO  
Charles Gore, Special Coordinator for Cross-sectoral Issues, Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes, UNCTAD  
Patrick Guillaumont, President, FERDI  
Mehmet Arda, Galatasaray University

13h00-15h00 Lunch

### **Enhanced Market Access for LDCs**

The Istanbul Programme of Action calls for a “timely implementation of duty and quota free market access, on a lasting basis for all LDCs” in line with the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, and “the abolition or reduction of arbitrary or unjustified trade barriers.” Many countries have expressed their support to give LDCs unrestricted market access to all products but the Istanbul conference as well as the Doha Round negotiations still fall short of a more meaningful delivery.

During the Istanbul conference, the EU presented the reform of the generalized system of preferences (GSP) to the LDC community. This reform aims at helping developing and least developed countries to export their products easier to the European Union. The session will assess the proposal and provide a floor for the discussants to give their perspectives on it.

### **15h00–18h00 Trade preferences for LDCs**

Chair: Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz

Panellist: Peter Thompson, Director for Trade and Development, and Economic Partnership Agreements for ACP countries, European Commission

Discussants: Erwidodo, Ambassador of Indonesia to WTO  
Gary Clyde Hufbauer, Senior Researcher, IIE  
Mina Mashayeki, Acting Director, Trade Division, UNCTAD  
Michael Finger, Consultant