



## **SIDE EVENT at the 2<sup>nd</sup> UN CONFERENCE ON LLDCs** **Vienna, Austria | 3 November 2014 (13:15 – 14:45pm) | Room M6**

### **Trade and human development in LLDCs** *Organized by the* **United Nations Development Programme**

**Rationale:** this side event explores trade and its potential impact on human development. International trade has been the engine of growth for many countries in Asia—and most recently in Africa—but many smaller and landlocked countries have not yet experienced significant gains. Moreover, in many countries that have benefitted from trade, these gains have not been broadly distributed, or have been accompanied by growing (possibly unsustainable) ecological burdens. UNDP has for years been helping governments respond to these development challenges, *inter alia* by supporting measures to:

- Reduce at- and behind-the-border barriers to trade;
- Invest in infrastructure and education;
- Raise the competitiveness and productivity of small-scale producers and traders;
- Promote structural transformation; and
- Assure that regional integration initiatives reflect the human development needs of, and opportunities for, LLDCs.

The event will feature an interactive discussion on trade and human development informed by the contribution of visionary leaders from Asia and Africa. The panellists will provide insights into how countries at different stages of development can combat jobless growth and “landlockedness” with smart trade and industrial policies, in order to advance human development outcomes.

**Objective and expected outcome:** the expected outcome of the side event is the identification of priority areas, policies and development initiatives to promote trade and human development in LLDCs. The key question for panellists is how trade and deeper regional and global economic ties can help LLDCs achieve their national development goals.

**Chair:** Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP

**Panellists:**

- Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Lao PDR
- Mr. Prakash Man Singh, Deputy Prime Minister of Nepal and Minister of Local Development (TBC).
- Hon. Yamfwa Mukanga MP, Minister of Transport, Works, Supply and Communications, Zambia (TBC).
- Mr. Mamadou Hashim Koumare, Minister of Infrastructure, Transport and Opening up, Mali (TBC).
- Mr. Kalykbek Sultanov, Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic (TBC).
- Ambassador Francis J. Zinsou, Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations and Chair of LDC Group.