

SIDE EVENT at the 2nd UN CONFERENCE ON LLDCs

Vienna, Austria – 4 November 2014 (8.15 - 9.45)
Vienna International Centre – Room M6

**Aid for Trade and Regional Integration
as Means for Accelerating Development of LLDCs**

Landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) face many obstacles delaying the expansion of their trade. While the Aid for Trade (AFT) initiative has been successful at mobilizing resources, and the DTISs (Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies), carried out under the EIF (Enhanced Integrated Framework), have both helped Least Developed Countries integrate the world economy, much still remains to be done, in particular a more effective application of the principles of results-based management, and a greater connectivity with local and global value chains. This session will discuss the benefits that can be expected from such improvements including via exploiting the returns to successful regional integration and business support services to facilitate trade, which has been neglected so far and are the highest for LLDCs because of the complementarities across countries along many dimensions (resource-rich and resource-poor, landlocked and coastal, large and small). The side-event will also discuss how AFT-fuelled DTISs designed at the region level will help build the needed coordination across countries and related capacities in this field.

Agenda

Introductory remarks: The economic vulnerability and the need for regional integration in LLDCs by **Patrick Guillaumont**, President of Ferdi

Keynote remarks on Aid for Trade, a crucial tool for LLDCs by Professor **Jaime de Melo**, Scientific Director, Ferdi, from his recent book “*Aid for Trade – What have we learnt? Which way ahead?*”

Views from LLDCs:

- H.E. Mr. **Mamadou Hachim Koumaré**: Ministre de l'Équipement, des Transports et du Désenclavement, Mali
- H.E. Mr. **Saley Saidou**, Ministre des Transports, Niger

Views from International Institutions:

- Mr. **Steve Kayizzi-Mugerwa**: Acting Chief Economist and Vice President, African Development Bank
- Ms. **Dorothy Tembo**: Deputy Executive Director, ITC
- Mr. **Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento**: Director Trade Capacity-Building Branch, UNIDO
- Mr. **Raúl Torres**: Counsellor, Development Division, WTO

Keynote remarks by **Gyan Acharya**: UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, United Nations

Exchanges with the floor

Concluding remarks

Simultaneous translation into English and French will be provided