



Asian Development Bank

"Global Financial Crisis, Export-Led Growth and Aid for Trade: Focus on the ASEAN Experience"

Regional Meeting on Aid for Trade for Asia and the Pacific
28—29 May 2009
Siem Reap, Cambodia

Co-hosted by the Government of Kingdom of Cambodia, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Trade Organization (WTO)

DRAFT as of 07 May 2009

Introduction

The financial crisis that started last year has evolved into a global economic crisis. The negative impact on trade and investment is already being felt in export-driven ASEAN economies. Twin risks of rising protectionism and a drying up of trade finance also loom on the horizon. The ongoing economic downturn has made increased development assistance for trade-led development more relevant than ever to mitigate these negative effects for ASEAN economies, particularly LDCs. Aid for Trade (in the form of building modern infrastructure and capacity for trade-led growth) is vital for future recovery and to prepare ASEAN economies for long-term development and structural change.

This meeting builds upon the recommendations from the First Regional Review in Manila in September 2007 and is a part of preparations for the Second Global Review in Geneva in July 2009. Specifically, this meeting aims to monitor the progress of the Aid for Trade initiative in the region, analyze the impact of global economic slowdown on export-led growth strategies of ASEAN economies, and examine what role Aid for Trade can play, both at the national and regional levels, and discuss innovative approaches to infrastructure development in addressing the challenges of recent events and strengthening regional cooperation. The messages from this meeting will inform the work of the Regional Technical Group on Aid for Trade for the Asia-Pacific and be presented by ADB President Kuroda at the Second Global Aid for Trade Review Meeting in July 2009. If ministers agree, a statement from the event may also be made available.

Day 1 — 28 May 2009
HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

Registration Desk opens

1:00-5:00 PM

TEA

5:00-6:00 PM

Session 1: Overview of the Aid for Trade Initiative in Asia and the Pacific

6:00-6:30 PM

This session sets the scene by providing an overview of the Aid for Trade initiative, including the Regional Technical Group (RTG) on Aid for Trade in the Asia-Pacific, current trends in aid for trade flows, impact of the current economic and financial downturn on aid and financial flows in the Asia-Pacific, progress achieved to date and the challenges ahead.

Welcome and Keynote Addresses:

- Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia
- Pascal Lamy, Director General, World Trade Organization
- Haruhiko Kuroda, President, Asian Development Bank

Session 2: Panel Discussion - The Way Forward and Messages for the Global Review

6:30-7:45 PM

The panel discussion considers regional and country perspectives from ASEAN ministers and donors on the impact of the current downturn and the strategies being considered to address the slowdown in trade and the rising threat of protectionism. It will also consider Aid for Trade needs and implementation issues. The discussion is expected to provide messages for the Second Global Review Meeting in Geneva.

Co-chairs: Pascal Lamy, Director General, World Trade Organization and
Haruhiko Kuroda, President, Asian Development Bank

Speakers:

- Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia
- Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Nguyen Cam Tu, Vice Minister, Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam
- Katsuhiko Shinohara, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Cambodia

Summary and Introduction of RTG Co-Chairs on Aid for Trade for Asia and the Pacific

7:45-8:00 PM

- Pascal Lamy, Director General, World Trade Organization
- Haruhiko Kuroda, President, Asian Development Bank

DINNER

8:30 PM

Day 2 — 29 May 2009 **TECHNICAL-LEVEL SEGMENT**

Remarks by RTG Co-Chairs

9:00-9:15 AM

- Tomochika Uyama, Minister, Embassy of Japan in the Philippines
- Sok Sopheak, Director General for International Trade Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia

Session 3: Global Financial Crisis, Implications and Responses

9:15-10:45 AM

The current economic slowdown and accompanying contraction in global trade has weakened the demand for ASEAN exports and reduced inward investment. Isolationist pressures and a loss of investor confidence would further aggravate the current situation. This session discusses the relevant trade-related issues and challenges facing the Asia-Pacific today: First, it will address the impact of the current downturn from a regional trade and perspective, the challenges the countries face (including the risks of rising protectionism and a drying up of trade finance) and the role of Aid for Trade to address these challenges in this changing trade landscape. Second, it will review the outlook for Aid for Trade, based on the CRS database, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/WTO self-assessments submitted by countries of the region to develop actionable plans, monitor progress, and encourage mutual accountability. Third, it will examine the key issues and implementation challenges in regional or cross-border infrastructure and offer best practices and new approaches to infrastructure development in Asia.

Chair: Jong-Wha Lee, Head, Office of Regional Economic Integration, ADB

Speakers:

- Ganeshan Wignaraja, Principal Economist, Office of Regional Economic Integration, ADB
- Masato Hayashikawa, Economist/Policy Analyst, OECD

- Biswa Bhattacharyay, Special Advisor to the Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute
- General Discussion

BREAK

10:45-11:00 AM

Session 4: Enhancing South-South Cooperation and Regional Approaches to Aid For Trade

11:00 AM-12:30 PM

South-South cooperation is a growing dynamic trend and a significant source of tested solutions to development challenges, including in the international trade area. In the ASEAN region, there is increasing bilateral, trilateral and regional assistance developing among countries of the region. How innovative mechanisms and ways to enhance, promote, encourage and monitor this form of cooperation will be examined, along with discussion of the potential contribution it can make to the implementation of Aid for Trade.

Chair: Shishir Priyadarshi, Director, Development Cooperation Department, WTO

Speakers:

- Go Shimada, Director, Trade Investment and Tourism Division, Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Zhang Xiangchen, Deputy Permanent Representative and Minister Chinese Mission to the WTO
- Tran Thi Thu Hang, Deputy Permanent Representative and Minister Counselor, Vietnam Mission to the UN, WTO and Other Organizations
- Watcharas Leelawath, Executive Director, International Institute for Trade and Development (ITD), Thailand

LUNCH

12:30-2:00 PM

Session 5: Promoting Private Sector Development as a Tool for Aid For Trade

2:00-3:30 PM

Trade policy in a globalized economy is no longer merely a question of lowering barriers in export markets; it is also about facilitating the ability of companies to participate in regional and global supply chains. This session will address issues related to investment, export market integration and examine successful case studies. The aim of the session is to share a vision from the private sector in the region.

Chair: Sok Siphana, Director, Resources and Partnership, Office of the Executive Director, International Trade Centre (ITC)

Speakers:

- Leon Khor, Director, GMSNet Pte Ltd.
- Okhna Khaou Phallaboth, President, KP Industries, Khaou Chuly Industry Group
- Pham Chi Lan, Senior Trade Advisor and Former Executive Vice President, Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI)
- Samuel Salloum, Co-Chair, Global Council for Efficient Logistics (GCEL)

TEA

3:30-3:40 PM

Session 6: Mainstreaming Trade into National Development Strategies

3:40-4:40 PM

In line with the Paris Principles on Aid Effectiveness, to be successful, Aid-for-Trade strategies should be country-owned and driven. This session will evaluate the progress made and discuss issues in mainstreaming trade and competitiveness agenda in national development strategies and how these can be addressed systematically in the donors' assistance programmes.

Chair: United Nations Development Programme (TBC)

Speakers:

- Nam Viyaketh, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Mona Haddad, Sector Manager, International Trade Department, World Bank
- Mia Mikic, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Policy Section, UNESCAP (TBC)

SUMMARY AND CLOSE

4:40-4:50 PM

- Senior Representatives from ADB and WTO