



Agency for International Trade
Information and Cooperation

Ministry of Commerce
Kingdom of Cambodia



AITIC Regional Workshop¹

Trade Facilitation Negotiations for Asian LDC Members and Observers of the WTO

Cambodiana Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
10 – 11 November 2009

Countries invited: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Laos PDR, Nepal

Draft Programme

Tuesday, 10 November

09:00 – 09:30 Registration of Participants

09:30 – 10:00 **Welcome Speech and Introductory Remarks**

Speakers: H.E. Dr. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of
Commerce, Kingdom of Cambodia
Dr. Esperanza Durán, Executive Director, AITIC

Session I: The Doha Negotiations on Trade Facilitation

10:00 – 10:45 **State of Play of Trade Facilitation Negotiations at the WTO**

Speaker: Mr. David Woods, Managing Director, World Trade Agenda
Consultants, former Director of Information, GATT / WTO

10:45 – 11:15 **Trade Facilitation Negotiations from the LDC Perspective**

Speakers: Mr. Penn Sovicheat, Director, Department of Notifications
and Legal Compliance, Ministry of Commerce - Cambodia
Mr. Ataur Rahman, Director, WTO Cell, Ministry of
Commerce - Bangladesh

11:15– 11:30 Coffee Break

Session II: GATT Article V (Freedom of Transit)

11:30 – 11:45 **Key Issues in the Negotiations on Article V**

Speaker: Mr. José Maria Rubiato
OIC, Trade Logistics Branch
UNCTAD Division on Technology and Logistics

¹ This seminar is a component of a DFID-financed project *Supporting LDCs in the Doha Trade Facilitation Negotiations of the WTO*.

- 11:45 – 12:30 **LLDCs Perspectives on Transit Issues - One Member and Two Observers of WTO**
 Speaker: Representative of Nepal (WTO Member)
 Representative of Lao PDR (in accession to WTO)
 Representative of Bhutan (in accession to WTO)
- 12:30 – 13:00 Discussion
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch
- Session III: GATT Article VIII (Fees and Formalities on Imports and Exports)**
- 14:00 – 14:30 **Issues of Interest to LDCs on Article VIII**
 Speaker: Mr. José Maria Rubiato
 OIC, Trade Logistics Branch
 UNCTAD Division on Technology and Logistics
- 14:30 – 15:00 **Disciplines on Fees and Charges**
 Speakers: Representative of Nepal
 Mr. Mashuk Al Hussein, First Secretary, Customs - Bangladesh
- 15:00 – 15:30 **Border Agency Cooperation**
 Speakers: Dr. Kun Nhem, Deputy Director General of General
 Department of Cambodia Customs and Excise,
 Ministry of Economic and Finance
 Representative of Lao PDR
- 15:30 – 15:45 Discussion
- 15:45 – 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00 – 16:30 **Limitation of Formalities and Documentation Requirements**
 Speaker: Mr. Zhang Shujie
 Regional Office for Capacity Building, Asia-Pacific
 World Customs Organization
- 16:30 – 16:45 Discussion
- 16:45 – 17:15 **Single Window**
 Speaker: Mr. José Maria Rubiato
 OIC, Trade Logistics Branch
 UNCTAD Division on Technology and Logistics
- 17:15 – 17:30 Discussion

Wednesday, 11 November

Session IV: GATT Article X (Publication and Administration of Trade Regulations)

- 9:30 – 10:00 **An Overview of the Negotiations on Article X**
 Speaker: Mr. José Maria Rubiato
 OIC, Trade Logistics Branch
 UNCTAD Division on Technology and Logistics

- 10:00 – 10:30 **Transparency and Publication of Border Procedures – Establishment of Enquiry Points and Notifications**
 Speaker: Mr. Zhang Shujie
 Regional Office for Capacity Building, Asia-Pacific
 World Customs Organization
- 10:30 – 10:45 Discussion
- 10:45 – 11:00 Coffee/Tea Break
- 11:00 – 11:30 **Advance Rulings and Appeal Procedures – Appeal Mechanism**
 Speaker: Mr. Zhang Shujie
 Regional Office for Capacity Building, Asia-Pacific
 World Customs Organization
- 11:30 – 11:45 Discussion
- Session V: National Perspectives & Trade Facilitation-Related Measures**
- 11:45 - 12:15 **WTO Accession – Challenges and Solutions; Adjusting for Gains of Membership**
 Speakers: Mr. Chiedu Osakwe, Director, WTO Accessions Division
 Mr. Dimitar Bratanov, Economic Affairs Officer, WTO
 Accessions Division
- 12:15 – 13:00 **Needs Assessments**
 Representative of Afghanistan
 (Completed February 2009)
 Representative of Lao PDR
 (To be completed September 2009)
- 13:00 – 14:30 Lunch
- 14:30 – 15:15 **Agencies and Organisations Involved in Cross-Border Trade Issues**
 Speakers: Representative of Nepal
 Dr. Kun Nhem, Deputy Director General of General
 Department of Cambodia Customs and Excise,
 Ministry of Economic and Finance
 Mr. Mashuk Al Hussein, First Secretary, Customs - Bangladesh
- 15:15 – 15:30 Discussion
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Private Sector Needs in the Improvement of Trade Facilitation**
 Speaker: Mr. Penn Sovicheat, Director, Department of Notifications
 and Legal Compliance, Ministry of Commerce - Cambodia
- 16:00 – 16:15 Discussion
- 16:15 – 16:30 **Summary and Evaluation**
 Dr. Esperanza Durán, Executive Director, AITIC
- 16:30 – 17:00 **Closing Ceremony**
 H.E. Dr. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce,
 Kingdom of Cambodia



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