



**COURSE ON KEY ISSUES
ON THE INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC AGENDA**

Short courses for Permanent Missions in Geneva
Organised by the Division on Technology and Logistics-Knowledge Development Branch
Policy Capacity Building Section / P166 courses

The trade and gender nexus and its relevance to inclusive development

Friday, 14 October 2016

Delivered by the
Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities

PROGRAMME

Geneva, Palais des Nations		Room XXVI
10:00 - 10:05	Welcome address and Introduction by Mr. Zhiliang Yu OIC/Project Coordinator/P166 program Session will be presented by Ms. Simonetta Zarrilli, Ms. Mariangela Linoci and Mr. Carmine Soprano, Trade, Gender and Development Programme. The session will be moderated by Ms. Simonetta Zarrilli	
10:05 - 11:15	Session 1 The many facets of inequality; Why promote gender equality; The trade and gender nexus Presented by Ms. Simonetta Zarrilli Q&A session	
11.15 - 11.30	Coffee break	
11.30 - 13.00	Session 2 UNCTAD work programme on trade, gender and development: Main achievements and ongoing and planned activities Presented by Ms. Mariangela Linoci and Mr. Carmine Soprano Q&A session	

The trade and gender nexus and its relevance to inclusive development

Economic development and social and cultural shifts have contributed to a decrease in gender-related inequalities across the world. These notably include an increase in female educational enrolment compared with that of males and in the participation of women in the labour force. However, these shifts cannot be considered an automatic outcome of development but rather the result of concerted policy action and resource allocation for gender equality. Taking a gender perspective has helped reveal a number of structural inequalities between men and women in social, economic and political spheres, and has encouraged the implementation of measures to redress them. Efforts to mainstream gender equality in policymaking have been critical in this regard.

Trade and trade liberalization policies tend to have a different impact on men and women. They yield important redistributive effects within the economy, which can either magnify or reduce existing disparities among groups, including women and men. It is therefore vital for policymakers to anticipate how trade policies will redistribute wealth within the economy and take corrective actions. UNCTAD contributes to the analysis critical to informing gender-sensitive policymaking.

Based on the main findings of UNCTAD analytical work on the gender ramifications of trade and trade policy, the course will focus on the trade and gender nexus, in other words, on how gender inequality affects trade performance and competitiveness, and on how trade affects women's wellbeing and economic empowerment. A brief description of the achievements of the UNCTAD work programme on trade, gender and development, and of ongoing and planned activities will also be provided.

Biographical details of the speakers:

Ms. Simonetta Zarrilli is the chief of the Trade, Gender and Development Work Programme in the Division on International Trade and Commodities of UNCTAD, and the organization's Focal Point for the substantive work on gender. Under her leadership, the programme provides analytical and policy support to UNCTAD's member countries on the gender ramifications of trade policy, trains academics, policy makers and civil society representatives on trade, gender and development related issues, and is active in debates around gender equality and women's economic empowerment within the 2030 Development Agenda.

Before being assigned to coordinate the organization's work on gender issues in 2010, Ms. Zarrilli worked on a number of trade and development related issues - such as preferential tariff treatments, trade and environment, standards and regulations, trade in services, intellectual property rights, agro-biotechnology, and renewable energy. She has carried out numerous analytical, intergovernmental and technical cooperation activities in the above-mentioned areas and has produced many publications, including books, studies, essays and official UNCTAD's documents.

Ms. Zarrilli holds a Master's Degree in Economic and Legal Studies from the College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium and a B.A. degree from the University of Siena, Italy. She is fluent in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian (mother tongue).

Mr. Carmine Soprano is a Trade & Gender Expert with UNCTAD's Trade, Gender and Development Programme, where he focuses primarily on women cross-border trade, female entrepreneurship and related supply-side constraints. He is also a Trade & Gender Specialist with the World Bank in Washington DC, leading on operational interventions and policy dialogue on small-scale trade facilitation and regional integration, as well as on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention in the context of trade projects. Prior to his current assignments, Carmine worked for the private sector, NGOs and international organizations, including the Inter-American Development Bank and UNDP Malawi, where he gained experience on women economic empowerment, female/youth agri-entrepreneurship and external relations, among other areas.

Carmine holds a Master's Degree in International Economics and is fluent in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian.

Ms. Mariangela Linoci is Economic Affairs Officer in the Trade, Gender and Development Programme of UNCTAD, where she works on numerous analytical and programmatic aspects relating to the area of trade and gender. Her activities at UNCTAD currently focus on the trade-gender nexus in countries in East Africa and in the COMESA group, and on the role of women in informal cross-border trade.

Prior to her current appointment, Mariangela worked on a number of development-related issues with a focus on gender equality and women's economic empowerment. Her experience includes assignments with the private sector, NGOs and other UN entities, including the International Organization for Migration, and UN Women in Vietnam. Mariangela holds Master's Degrees in International Relations and in Political Science and Humanities, with final dissertations focusing on gender and development.