

Short courses for Permanent Missions in Geneva Organised by the Division on Technology and Logistics

Trade logistics, transport, trade facilitation and customs automation: Issues and UNCTAD's role

Monday, 26 September 2016

Delivered by the Division on Technology and Logistics

PROGRAMME

Geneva, Palais des Nations Room XXVI	
10:00 - 10:05	Welcome address by Ms. Geneviève Féraud Head of Knowledge Development Branch
	Session will be moderated by Ms. Randa Jamal, Project Coordinator/p166 program
10:05 - 11:15	Session 1 The importance and relevance of trade logistics and transport to development: Opportunities for Developing Countries Presented by Mr. Jan, Hoffmann, Chief of Section, Trade Facilitation Section, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics Q&A session
11.15 - 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 - 13.00	Session 2 Trade Facilitation and Development: Driving trade competitiveness, border agency effectiveness and strengthened governance Presented by Mr. Jan Hoffmann. Q&A session

Trade logistics, transport, and trade facilitation: Issues and UNCTAD's role

With the Agreement on Trade Facilitation of the World Trade Organization now in place, and building on the mandate of UNCTAD in trade and transport logistics, some of the most compelling issues and challenges faced by developing countries in improving their participation in international trade will be addressed. Such issues may affect the different categories of developing countries in various ways, and the challenges before them will vary in nature and scope. Possible responses will depend on a given country's geographical situation, circumstances and stage of development. UNCTAD has actively carried out work under these three pillars as well as over nearly a decade and a half; and has developed analytical and technical assistance capacities and the expertise to understand and deal with some of the key pertinent questions.

This course will include the presentation and discussion of the following topics:

- Current trends in trade logistics and implications for participation in global value chains:
- Emerging and persisting challenges for developing countries: trade and transport security, market-access costs and institutional efficiency;
- The role of technology and innovation in improving trade, transit and transport operations;
- Implementation of trade facilitation reform at the national and regional levels, including the Agreement on Trade Facilitation of the World Trade Organization;

These issues will also be discussed from the perspective of landlocked developing countries, small-island developing States, countries with economies in transition and the least developed countries.

Jan HOFFMANN is Chief of UNCTAD's Trade Facilitation Section, which is managing various multilateral, regional and national trade facilitation projects. Jan co-edits the quarterly UNCTAD "Transport and Trade Facilitation Newsletter", is co-author and coordinator of the annual UNCTAD "Review of Maritime Transport", and he created and produces the annual "Liner Shipping Connectivity Index". Previously, he spent six years with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago de Chile and two years with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London and Santiago. Earlier, he held part time positions in academia, as import-export agent, seafarer, translator, consultant and he worked for a family business tramp shipping company. Jan has studied in Germany, United Kingdom and Spain, and holds a doctorate degree in Economics from the University of Hamburg. His work has resulted in numerous UN and peer reviewed publications as well as the Internet "Maritime Profile", the "International Transport Data Base", and various electronic newsletters. Jan is member of the advisory and editorial boards of various academic journals, and president of the International Association of Maritime Economists (IAME).