



**P166 SHORT COURSES
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

**Recent developments in international trade and their implications for the
policymaking process**

Friday, 4 May 2018

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

PROGRAMME

Geneva, Palais des Nations		Room XXVI
10:00 - 10:15	<p>Welcome remarks by Ms. Shamika N. Sirimanne, UNCTAD Director, DTL</p> <p><i>Sessions will be moderated by Ms. Randa Jamal, Project Coordinator, Policy Capacity Building Section, Knowledge Development Branch</i></p>	
10:15 - 11:45	<p>Session 1</p> <p>The session will present the status of international trade and its trends during the past few years. The session will also inform on evolving use of trade policy instruments and their implications for developing countries.</p> <p>The session will provide insights on topical issues such the use of trade restrictive measures, trade imbalances, premature deindustrialization and on linkages between trade and sustainable development.</p> <p><i>Q&A session</i></p> <p><i>Presented by Mr. Alessandro Nicita, Chief, Research Section, Trade Analysis Branch, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, UNCTAD</i></p>	
11.45 - 12.00	Coffee break	
12.00 - 13.00	<p>Session 2</p> <p>The session will illustrate the status of the trade policymaking process at the multilateral level. It will cover the outcomes of the recent WTO Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires and discuss their implications for the multilateral trading system and its development dimension in view of Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p><i>Q&A session</i></p> <p><i>Presented by Mr. Taisuke Ito, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Negotiations and Commercial Diplomacy Branch, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, UNCTAD</i></p>	

Recent developments in international trade and their implications for the policymaking process

International trade and the instruments governing it have changed in many ways during the last few years. The purpose of this course is to inform delegates on some of the most important developments in international trade and on the changing use of trade policy instruments. The course will first present some of the patterns of international trade observed during the last few years and the factors behind them. The course will then provide some insights on the use and importance of various trade policy instruments. The course will also provide an overview of the persisting trade imbalances, their causes and implications, and their relationship to trade policies. Finally, the course will discuss some of the implications of the stall in the trade policy making process at the multilateral level. During the course delegates will be made aware of any relevant links to the sustainable development goals.

Mr. Alessandro Nicita is the Chief of the Research Section of the Trade Analysis Branch, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, UNCTAD. Before his present position he worked as an economist at the World Bank. His expertise focuses on issues related to international trade and development. His work has included the measurement of the effects of trade policies, the analysis of policies improving market access for developing countries, as well as the effect of trade policies on poverty and inequality. He has authored several publications in the field of international trade and economic development.

Mr. Taisuke Ito is an Economic Affairs Officer in the Trade Negotiations and Commercial Diplomacy Branch, Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, UNCTAD. He has joined UNCTAD in 1999 and has conducted research and technical cooperation activities in support of developing countries' participation in multilateral and regional trade negotiations and trade policy formulation, including in the context of the WTO Doha Round negotiations, ACP-EU EPA negotiations and the African Continental FreeTrade Area (CFTA) negotiations.