

Draft Programme (as of 23 August 2022)

10th Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum

29 - 30 August 2022, Singapore

Next Generation Trade Facilitation for Sustainable Development

Co-organized by ADB, ESCAP, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore

The Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum (APTFF) is the leading regional platform for the exchange of good practices and knowledge on trade facilitation. The APTFF has been organized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in cooperation with a growing number of partners, since 2009. The Forum attracts over 250 participants from over 30 countries, and offers extensive opportunities for capacity building and cooperation.

The 10th APTFF will focus on how trade facilitation should evolve to enhance the resilience of international supply chains in times of pandemic and to better support sustainable economic recovery and development in the Asia-Pacific region. In this regard, the Forum will explore how trade digitalization and emerging technologies can be used to ensure that new generation trade facilitation measures are inclusive and sustainable, enabling effective participation of SMEs and less developed economies in international trade.

The Forum will feature panel discussions, and interactive and informative sessions to allow participants to share experiences and perspectives on different aspects of trade facilitation, including trade finance, cross-border e-commerce and paperless trade, transit, and innovative application of emerging technologies. The Forum will feature relevant regional initiatives and implementation cases in each session. The Forum will also include a number of side-events providing more in-depth exploration of pertinent trade facilitation issues.

Day 1: 29 August 2022

10:00 – 10:30 **Registration and Coffee/Tea**

10:30 – 11:00 **Opening Session**

Ms. Low Yen Ling
Minister of State
Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore

Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
and **Executive Secretary** of ESCAP

Mr. Albert Park
Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation
Department, ADB

11:00 – 11:05

Break

11:05 – 12:35

High Level Panel Discussion: Next Generation Trade Facilitation for Sustainable Development

- Recent trends in trade and implications for trade facilitation
- The role of trade digitalization and emerging technologies in making next generation trade facilitation measures more inclusive and sustainable
- Opportunities for trade facilitation to evolve and enhance resilience of international supply chains and better support sustainable recovery in the Asia-Pacific region

Moderator: Ms. Rupa Chanda, Director, ESCAP

Panelists:

- H.E. Mr. Abdurahmonzoda Abdurahmon Safarali, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan
- H.E. Mr. Riyaz Mansoor, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economic Development, Maldives
- H.E. Mr. Ulziisaikhan Ganbold, Director-General, Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mongolia
- Ms. Deborah Elms, Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre
- Ms. Anabel González, Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization
- Ms. Anna Joubin-Bret, Secretary, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)
- Mr. Antoine Cadoux, CEO, Singapore Trade Data Exchange

12:35 – 14:10

Lunch

14:10 – 15:50

Session 1: Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific – State of play and prospects

- Highlights from the UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation
- Findings from national Readiness Assessments for Cross-border Paperless Trade
- Challenges and emerging good practices

Moderator: Mr. Mohammad Saeed, Senior Trade Facilitation Adviser, International Trade Centre

Presentations:

- Mr. Yann Duval, Chief, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section, ESCAP
- Ms. Choo Wai Yee, Director (Networked Trade Platform Office), Singapore Customs

Panelists:

- **Keynote Panelist** – H.E. Mr. Domingos Lopes Antunes, Vice Minister for Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry, Timor-Leste
- Mr. Jonathan Soriano, Director, Philippine Bureau of Customs
- Ms. Silvia Sorescu, Policy Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

- Mr. Ronald Butiong, Chief of Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB
- Mr. Young-hwan Cha, CEO, Korea Trade Network

15:50 – 16:10 **Break**

16:10 – 17:40 ***Session 2: Regional initiatives for trade digitalization – Progress made and way forward***

- Progress made in regional initiatives for trade digitalization
- Forthcoming developments in regional, subregional, and other cross-country initiatives for trade digitalization

Moderator: Mr. Ronald Butiong, Chief of Regional Cooperation and Integration Thematic Group, ADB

Presentations:

- Mr. Cuong Ba Tran, Assistant Director, ASEAN Secretariat
- Ms. Cindy Rayo Zapata, Director General, Ministry of Economy, Mexico

Panelists:

- Ms. Joyce Lim, Deputy Director (Digital Economy), Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore
- Ms. Zulfia Karimova, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB
- Mr. Jayvee Santos, ASYCUDA Regional Coordinator, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- Mr. Ibrahima Nour Eddine Diagne, CEO, GAINDE 2000

Day 2: 30 August 2022

09:00 – 10:30 ***Session 3: Making trade facilitation more sustainable – Lessons learned from good practices***

- Perspectives on how trade facilitation can be made more sustainable and inclusive
- Sharing experiences of an integrated approach to trade and transport facilitation
- Experiences and lessons learned in trade facilitation that are complementary with climate goals

Moderator: Mr. Poul Hansen, Chief, Trade Facilitation Section, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Presentations:

- Ms. Soo Hyun Kim, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP
- Ms. Sanchita Basu Das, Economist, ADB

Panelists:

- **Keynote Panelist** – H.E. Ms. Ainura Usenbekova, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Kyrgyzstan
- Ms. Valerie Picard, Deputy Director, Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation
- Ms. Marlynne Hopper, Deputy Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), World Trade Organization
- Mr. Jonathan Koh, Managing Director, Trade Facilitation Pte Ltd

10:30 – 11:00

Break

11:00 – 12:30

Session 4: Facilitating trade finance for MSMEs

- Key issues and challenges in MSME access to trade finance
- How to enhance access to trade finance for MSMEs, particularly in the recovery from the pandemic

Moderator: Ms. Sanchita Basu Das, Economist, ADB

Presentations:

- Mr. Kijin Kim, Senior Economist, ADB
- Ms. Sonal Priyanka, Head of Origination, Incomlend

Panelists:

- Mr. Ian Sayers, Senior Adviser, International Trade Centre
- Ms. Hannah Nguyen, Director, ICC Digital Standards Initiative (DSI)
- Mr. Saurav Bhattacharyya, CEO, Proxtera
- Mr. Phan Thanh Son, Head of Global Transaction Services Division (Deputy CEO), Techcombank

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 15:30

Session 5: Aid for sustainable trade facilitation – Evolving needs and available support

- Country needs in implementing sustainable trade facilitation
- Current support available for sustainable trade facilitation

Moderator: Ms. Pramila Crivelli, Economist, ADB

Keynote Speaker:

- H.E. Mr. Sopheak Sok, Secretary of State, Ministry of Commerce, Cambodia

Short presentations:

- Mr. Ratnakar Adhikari, Executive Director, Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Executive Secretariat
- Ms. Alina Antoci, Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, World Bank
- Ms. Yan Zhang, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Mr. Christian Lembke, Technical Attaché, World Customs Organization
- Mr. Dulguun Damdin-Od, Executive Director, International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries (ITLLDC)

Discussant: Country representative(s)

15:30 – 15:50

Break

15:50 – 17:10

Session 6: APTFF Trade Facilitation Innovation Awards

- Showcase and award the top four case studies of innovative national/subregional trade facilitation

Moderator: Mr. Yann Duval, Chief, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section, ESCAP

Presentations:

- Mr. Xu Jun, Director, Division of Multilateral Affairs, Department of International Cooperation, General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China
- Mr. Loh Sin Yong, Director, TradeTrust, Infocomm Media Development Authority, Singapore
- Mr. Sung Heun Ha, Director of International Business and Cooperation, Korea Trade Network
- Mr. Kotaro Hayashi, General Manager of Alliance Business Department, TradeWaltz Inc.

17:10 – 17:30

Closing session