



UNCTAD Global Policy Dialogue (GPD):

“Post COVID-19 Resurgence of MSMEs and Competition Policy”

In partnership with ESCAP & ECLAC & ESCWA

1,2,3 December 2021

Duration: 6 hours (2 hours per day)

Santiago 09h00, Geneva 13h00, Beirut 14h00, Bangkok 19h00

Programme

Following the successful implementation of the phase II regional dialogues across the world with each of the UN regional economic commissions, UNCTAD in close partnership with ESCAP-ECLAC-ESCWA will co-host a Global Policy Dialogue (GPD), which is an interactive discussion that will bring together representatives and officials of government MSME bodies, as well as competition agency representatives from across the world to discuss how competition policy could support MSMEs. The event will prioritise sharing experiences and best practices that have emerged during this crisis. The GPD will be via Zoom and include simultaneous multilingual interpretation (Arabic, Chinese, French, English, Russian and Spanish).

The GPD will be held through a virtual webinar in different sessions that will be dedicated to three interlinked topics:

- (1) The impact of competition policy in the digitalization of MSMEs in the wake of COVID-19. This 1st session is scheduled for 1st December 2021 at 09h00 Santiago, 13h00 Geneva, 15h00 Beirut, and 19h00 Bangkok. Co-hosts are UNCTAD and ECLAC.
- (2) Access to finance, Government support in times of COVID-19: This 2nd session is scheduled for 2nd December 2021 at 09h00 Santiago, 13h00 Geneva, 15h00 Beirut, and 19h00 Bangkok. Co-hosts are UNCTAD and ESCAP.
- (3) Interagency coordination between MSME agencies and competition authorities. This 3rd session is scheduled for 3rd December 2021 at 09h00 Santiago, 13h00 Geneva, 15h00 Beirut and 19h00 Bangkok. Co-hosts are UNCTAD and ESCWA.

Registration link to join the ZOOM webinar hosted by UNCTAD:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IDgPcqT8T26W6cmHiO9vIQ

1 December 2021

9:00-10:00 Santiago
13:00-14:00 Geneva
14:30-15:00 Beirut
19:30-20:00 Bangkok

Opening Ceremony: Global Policy Dialogue

- Mr. Richard Bolwijn, Head Investment Research Branch, UNCTAD
- Mrs. Teresa Moreira, Head of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UNCTAD
- Mr. Mario Castillo, Director of International Trade and Infrastructure ECLAC
- Mrs. Tientip Subhanij, Chief of Section; Investment and Enterprise Development Section Trade, Investment, and Innovation, ESCAP
- Mr. Tarik Alami, Cluster Leader, Governance & Enabling Environment, ESCWA
- Mr. Amson Sibanda, Head, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA

Moderator: Dr. Pierre Horna, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch (CCPB), Division on International Trade and Commodities (DITC), UNCTAD

10:00-10:30 Santiago
14:00-14:30 Geneva
15:00-15:30 Beirut
20.00-20:30 Bangkok

Presentation on 1st day: Digitalization of MSMEs

- Mr. Rajesh Aggarwal, OiC Director, Division for Market Development, ITC
- “The Latin American and Caribbean Experience on MSMEs & Digitalization” Mr. Marco Dini, Production, Productivity and Management Division (DPPE), ECLAC
- Experiences from other regions:
 - Ms. Carolyne Ariokot, Manager for the Access and Usage pillar, Financial Sector Deepening, Uganda
 - Mr. Jerry Clavesillas, Director Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development, Department of Trade and Industry, Philippines.
 - Mr. Vinod Kumar, President, SME Forum, India

Moderator: Mr. Alejandro Patiño, DPPE, ECLAC

10:30-11:20 Santiago
14:30-15:20 Geneva
15:30-16:20 Beirut
20:30-21:20 Bangkok

Dialogue between Competition and MSMEs officials on the digitalization of MSMEs post COVID19

This session will allow experts to share experiences and best practices as well as highlight diversity across the world on the subject “MSMEs & Digital trade; strategies for post crisis recovery and lessons learned.”

Discussants: (5 mins each)

- Mr. Gabriel Musentekwa, Director Enterprise Development, Zambia Development Agency
- *Mr. Ali Al Arbash, Head of Economics Department Competition Protection Agency, Kuwait*
- Mr. Gevorg Poghosyan, Head, Business Support Office-Armenia
- Dr. Chandra Setiawan, Commissioner, Indonesian Competition Commission.
- Dr. Aruna Sharma, Former Secretary to the Govt. of India
- Mr. Rommell Hippolyte, CARICOM Competition Commission
- Mr. Cesar Reinaldo Rissete, Brazilian Service of Support to Micro and Small Enterprises, Brazil

Moderator: Mrs. Elizabeth Gachuri, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

11:20-11:30 Santiago
15:20-15:30 Geneva
16:20-16:30 Beirut
21:20-21.30 Bangkok

Closing remarks of DAY 1

Mrs. Georgina Núñez, DPPE, ECLAC

2 December 2021

Session on Access to finance and Government Support

9:00-09:10 Santiago
13:00-13:10 Geneva
14:00-14:10 Beirut
19:00-19.10 Bangkok

Opening remarks of DAY 2

- Mr. Juan Luis Crucelegui, Chief of Capacity Building and Technical Assistance, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

Moderator: Mrs. Elizabeth Gachuri, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

9:10-09:50 Santiago
13:10-13:50 Geneva
14:10-14:50 Beirut
19:10-19.50 Bangkok

Presentations

- “Regional challenges in accessing finance and government support in Asia and Pacific countries” Mrs. Luciana Baglioni, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, ESCAP
- Mr. Niranjana Sarangi, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, ESCWA

Presentations by member states from:

- Ms. Alka Arora, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of MSME, India
- Mr. Esam Bahloul, Acting Director of Industry Support Directorate, Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation, Jordan

Moderator: Mr. Benjamin McCarthy, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP

09:50-10:40 Santiago
13:50-13:40 Geneva
14:50-15:40 Beirut
19:50-20.40 Bangkok

Dialogue between Competition and SME officials on access to finance and government support

This session will allow experts to share experiences and best practices as well as highlight the diversity across the world on the subject matter “Government support to MSMEs in times of COVID, Lessons learned and strategies for post crisis recovery”

- Discussants: (5 mins each)
 - Mr. Juan Pablo Herrera, Deputy Superintendent, Superintendence of Industry and Commerce, Colombia
 - Mr Silas Santiago, Manager of Public Policy, Brazilian Service of Support to Micro and Small Enterprises, Brazil
 - Mr. Francis Olivier Cubahiro, Director of ICT Infrastructures, Burundi
 - *Mr. Hassan Abouabdelmajid, Vice President, Conseil de la Concurrence, Maroc*
 - Mr. Karimov Bobir Hasanovich, First Deputy Chairman of Antimonopoly Committee, Uzbekistan
 - Professor Wei Zhai, Executive Director, Competition Law Research Center of the East China University of Political Science and Law, PRC

Moderator: Dr. Pierre Horna, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

10:40-11:00 Santiago
14:40-15:00 Geneva
15:40-16:00 Beirut
20:40-21.00 Bangkok

Closing remarks of DAY 2

- Mr. Benjamin McCarthy, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP
- Mrs. Georgina Núñez, DPPE, ECLAC.
- Dr. Pierre Horna, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

3 December 2021

Session on Inter-agency cooperation between MSME agencies and competition authorities

9:00-09:30 Santiago
13:00-14:00 Geneva
14:00-14:30 Beirut
19:00-19.30 Bangkok

Opening remarks of DAY 3

- Mr. Tarik Alami, Cluster Leader, Governance & Enabling Environment, ESCWA
- Mr. Crispin Conroy, Permanent Observer/Ambassador, International Chamber of Commerce

Moderator: Dr. Pierre Horna, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

9:30-10:00 Santiago
13:30-14:00 Geneva
14:30-15:00 Beirut
19:30-20.00 Bangkok

Presentations

- “Competition regulatory reforms and Public Procurement for strengthening MSMEs resilience” Mrs. Nathalie Khaled, Project Coordinator, ESCWA
- “The Role of Competition Policy in Strengthening the Business Environment for MSMEs in the ASEAN Region” Dr. Rachel Burgess, Consultant, ESCAP
- Presentations from member States:
 - Mr. Dhanendra Kumar, Formerly Chairperson Competition Commission of India
 - Mr. Krisda Piampongsant, Vice-Chairman of the Office for the Trade and Competition Commission, Thailand.
 - Mr. Barry Headley, CARICOM Competition Commission

Moderator: Mr. Tarik Alami, Cluster Leader, Governance & Enabling Environment, ESCWA

10:00-10:50 Santiago
14:00-14:50 Geneva
15:00-15:50 Beirut
20:00-20.50 Bangkok

Dialogue between competition and SME officials on interagency cooperation

This session will allow experts to share experiences and best practices as well as highlight the diversity across the world on the subject matter “Concrete experiences on interagency cooperation; strategies for post crisis recovery”

- Discussants:
 - Ms. Gabriela Leon, Director of SMEs Ministry of Economy, Costa Rica
 - Ms. Evelyn Olmedo, Superintendence of Competition, El Salvador
 - Mr. Gift Sithole, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Cooperation, Zimbabwe
 - Mr. Mahmoud Momtaz Chairman, Egyptian Competition Authority
 - Ms. Frances Xu, Partner, Kewei Law Firm (HSF Kewei Joint Operation Office), PRC

Moderator: Mrs. Elizabeth Gachuiru, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

10:50-11:00 Santiago
14:50-15:00 Geneva
15:50-16:00 Beirut
20:50-21.00 Bangkok

Closing remarks of DAY 3

- Mrs. Nathalie Khaled, Project Coordinator, ESCWA

11:00-11:15 Santiago
15:00-15:15 Geneva
16:00-16:15 Beirut
21:00-21.15 Bangkok

Closing ceremony of the GPD: The way forward

- Ms. Teresa Moreira, Head of CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

Moderator: Dr. Pierre Horna, CCPB, DITC, UNCTAD

