

TRADE FOR PEACE WEEK

30 November – 4 December 2020

MONDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2020

SESSION 1 12:30 – 14:00 CET
In collaboration with the UN Technology Bank
Tech in Trade for Peace



SESSION 2 15:30 – 17:00 CET
OPENING SESSION
Trade for Peace: Leveraging Cross-Cutting Cooperation
and Partnerships



TUESDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 3 10:30 – 12:00 CET
In collaboration with the International Trade
Centre and the International Chamber of
Commerce
Business for Peace



SESSION 4 15:00 – 16:30 CET
In collaboration with the WTO Economic Research and
Statistics Division
Trade, Conflict and Peace: Empirical Evidence



WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 5 10:30 – 12:00 CET
In collaboration with the International Labour
Organization
Trade for Peace through Decent Job Creation



SESSION 6 15:00 – 16:30 CET
In collaboration with the World Bank
Trade for Peace in Reconstruction for Iraq and Libya



THURSDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 7 10:30 – 12:00 CET
In collaboration with Interpeace
Economic Peacebuilding in Somalia: Integrating
Peace in Trade Policies



SESSION 8 14:30 – 16:00 CET
Yemen – Where trade, humanitarian and
peace activities meet on the ground



FRIDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 9 10:30 – 12:00 CET
In collaboration with the g7+ Secretariat and the
g7+ WTO Accessions Group
Trade in times of Covid-19: Experiences of Fragile
and Conflict Affected States



SESSION 10 14:30 – 16:00 CET
Using Trade Integration to Promote Peace in the Horn
of Africa: Cases of AfCFTA and WTO Membership



MONDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2020

SESSION 1 – TECH IN TRADE FOR PEACE
In collaboration with the UN Technology Bank
12:30 – 14:00 CET

In the midst of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, tech is everywhere. All the way from how we live, communicate and trade. But how is technology powered by the creative force of entrepreneurs shaping a future for peace? Meet the entrepreneurs who are building a resilient pathway for growth and greater opportunities for all, right from the heart of some of the most conflicted zones.

Moderator:

- Ms. Angeles Cortesi, Programme Manager, UN Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries (UN-TBLDC)

Speakers:

- Mr. Joshua Setipa, Managing Director, UN Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries (UN-TBLDC)
- Ms. Roya Mahboob, CEO, Afghan Citadel Software Company
- Mr. Ahmed Elmurtada, Managing Director, 249 Startup
- Mr. Mohamed Elzakey, Co-Founder & CEO, Tirhal
- Mr. Luther Jeke, Director, iCampus Liberia



SESSION 2 – OPENING SESSION: TRADE FOR PEACE: LEVERAGING CROSS-CUTTING COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS
15:30 – 17:00 CET

The Trade for Peace Week is an opportunity to forge new partnerships and collaborations within the trade, peace and humanitarian communities, in order to restore the primacy of multilateral cooperation based on a set of common values. This session aims to introduce the Trade for Peace Initiative to a wider audience, as well as formally initiate conversations between the trade, peace and humanitarian communities on what is happening on the ground, what works, and what needs to be done.

Moderator:

- Ms. María Pérez-Esteve, Counsellor, Accessions Division, WTO

Speakers:

- H.E. Dr. Jose Ramos Horta, Noble Peace Prize Laureate, Former President of Timor-Leste, Special Envoy of g7+ (video message)
- Ambassador Alan Wm. Wolff, Deputy Director-General, WTO
- Dr. Gilles Carbonnier, Vice President, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- Dr. Henk-Jan Brinkman, Chief, Peacebuilding Strategy and Partnership Branch, Peacebuilding Support Office, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United Nations
- Ms. Noura Tan, Rapporteur, GPW20 Track Harnessing the Economy for Peace, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform



TUESDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 3 – BUSINESS FOR PEACE

In collaboration with the International Trade Centre and the International Chamber of Commerce
10:30 – 12:00 CET

A thriving private sector is key to economic recovery and has the potential to influence peace processes. Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 crisis that has exasperated the challenges that conflict-affected and fragile countries are facing, advocacy and support for the private sector has become even more essential. Promoting entrepreneurship and creating opportunities and market linkages for small and medium-sized enterprises, including those led by women, youth and people displaced by conflict, is essential for reaching economic stability, while addressing the economic root causes of many conflicts.

This session provides insights into the role of the private sector in contributing to peace and security from different angles, such as: the importance of bringing the voice of the private sector to the policymaking process, including with regard to WTO accession-related reforms; staying in business and creating businesses to provide income opportunities for the most affected communities; attracting international investors and buyers to (re-)engage in conflict-affected and fragile states.

Moderator:

- Ms. Hannah Viviers, News Anchor, CGTN Africa

Speakers:

- Ms. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
- Mr. John H.W. Denton AO, Secretary General, International Chamber of Commerce
- Mr. Simon Akuei Deng, Secretary General, National Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, South Sudan
- Ms. Maissa Abou Adal Ghanem, Board Member and Chief Sustainability Officer, Holdal Group, Lebanon
- Mr. Sanzar Kakar, Chairman, Afghanistan Holding Group
- Ms. Alice Bosley, Co-founder and Executive Director, Five One Labs, Iraq (Kurdistan region)
- Mr. Mahmud Johnson, Founder & CEO, J-Palm, Liberia



SESSION 4 – TRADE, CONFLICT AND PEACE: EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE

In collaboration with the WTO Economic Research and Statistics Division
15:00 – 16:30 CET

Conventional wisdom suggests that larger trade flows lead to more peaceful relations, while economic literature has shown that the impact of trade on international conflict might depend on the geographical structure of trade, the balance between bilateral and multilateral openness, the structure of comparative advantage, and trade costs. In the context of domestic conflict, while more open economies should be less inclined to civil conflict, international trade could also act as a source of revenue that finances conflict. Relatedly, civil conflict might create dependence on primary sector exports, but is the reverse also true? This session will discuss the empirical evidence on the following questions: Does international trade reduce international conflict? Can trade openness deter the outbreak of intra-national (i.e. civil) conflict?

Moderator:

- Mr. Cosimo Beverelli, Research Economist, Economic Research and Statistics Division, WTO

Speakers:

- Ms. Michelle Garfinkel, Professor of Economics, University of California-Irvine
- Ms. Anke Hoeffler, Professor of Political Science, University of Konstanz
- Mr. Serge Stroobants, Director, Europe & MENA region, Institute for Economics and Peace
- Mr. Mathias Thoenig, Professor of Economics, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Lausanne



WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 5 – TRADE FOR PEACE THROUGH DECENT JOB CREATION
In collaboration with the International Labour Organization
10:30 - 12:00 CET

The purpose of this session is to advocate for the importance of trade and decent jobs in promoting peace in fragile and conflict affected countries through multilateral cooperation between international institutions (i.e. International Labour Organization, World Trade Organization and United Nations Development Programme). It will showcase, through real-life experiences, how trade and decent jobs can contribute to national, regional and global peace and security. The proposed speakers for the panel will be representing both policy makers and practitioners with operational-level experiences in WTO accession negotiations, labour policy formulation, and peacebuilding. The panel discussion will propose concrete recommendations for navigating the triangle of trade, jobs and peace.

Moderator:

- Ms Roberta Piermartini, Chief, Trade Cost Analysis Section, Economic Research and Statistics Division, WTO

Speakers:

- Ms. Mito Tsukamoto, Chief, Development and Investment, Employment Policy Dept, ILO Geneva
- Mr. Mozammil Shinwari, former Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry of Afghanistan and Chief Negotiator for WTO Accession
- Mr. Roberto Suarez Santos, Secretary General, International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
- Mr. Omar Faruk Osman, General Secretary, Federation of Somali Trade Unions (FESTU)
- Ms. Luisa Bernal, Policy Specialist, UNDP Geneva



SESSION 6 – TRADE FOR PEACE IN RECONSTRUCTION FOR IRAQ AND LIBYA
In collaboration with the World Bank
15:00 - 16:30 CET

In 2004, Iraq and Libya applied for WTO membership and are still in the process of accession. Since then, both countries have greatly suffered from fragility, conflict and political instability. Is peace enough to restore prosperity and economic recovery to Iraq and Libya? This panel will address how trade and economic integration for Iraq and Libya can be used as a tool to rebuild their fragile economies and help promote sustainable and inclusive peace. It will also emphasize the importance of WTO membership as a tool to help lock in domestic reforms, attract investment and reap the benefits of a rules-based multilateral trading system.

Moderator:

- Mr. Wael Mansour, Senior Country Economist for Iraq, World Bank

Opening remarks:

- Mr. Antonio Nucifora, Practice Manager, Trade and Regional Integration, World Bank

Speakers:

- Mr. Michael Ferrantino, Lead Economist for Trade Policy, World Bank
- Ms. Nidhal Sebri, Director, Ministry of Trade, Iraq
- Ambassador Tamim Baiou, Permanent Representative of Libya to the United Nations Office in Geneva
- Mr. Michael Schaeffer, Resident Representative for Libya, World Bank



THURSDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 7 – ECONOMIC PEACEBUILDING IN SOMALIA: INTEGRATING PEACE IN TRADE POLICIES
In collaboration with Interpeace
10:30 – 12:00 CET

A thriving economy is essential to stability and building lasting peace. Ensuring that peacebuilding is at the centre of economic development and trade policies could contribute to greater policy coherence for development and support economic growth that will help societies and countries emerge from violence and war. Somalia is one of the countries emerging from prolonged conflict and is now focused on rebuilding and economic recovery. As a result of its geographical location, Somalia was historically a thriving centre for international trade and commerce.

In this session we will discuss the role of trade in building and sustaining peace and how trade policies can be harnessed to prevent conflict, build resilience and contribute to inclusive and sustainable development.

Moderator:

- Mr. Ahmed Abdullahi, Country Representative of Somalia, Interpeace

Speakers:

- Mr. Khadar Mohamed Gulaid, Deputy Prime Minister, Somalia
- Mr. Scott Weber, President, Interpeace
- H.E. Mr. Staffan Tillander, Ambassador of Sweden to Somalia
- Ms. Maika Oshikawa, Director, Accessions Division, WTO



SESSION 8 – YEMEN - WHERE TRADE, HUMANITARIAN AND PEACE ACTIVITIES MEET ON THE GROUND
14:30 – 16:00 CET

Yemen's WTO accession process (2000-2014) provided the impetus for solidifying domestic economic reforms and poverty reduction efforts. However, plagued by conflict, cholera, famine, and COVID-19, Yemen is suffering from a precarious supply of food, water and medicine due to delays in commercial flows. The obstruction of trade routes, coupled with an unstable macroeconomic environment, has heightened the urgency of addressing trade bottlenecks that are paralyzing Yemen's economy and livelihoods and acting as barriers to humanitarian assistance. In recognition of this challenge, this session will bring together relevant stakeholders to rethink trade as a humanitarian and peacebuilding priority in Yemen.

Moderator:

- Dr. Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

Speakers:

- H.E. Mr. Hans Grundberg, Ambassador of the European Union to Yemen
- H.E. Mr. Saadaldeen Talib, former Minister of Industry and Trade of Yemen and Chief Negotiator for WTO Accession
- Ms. Asmaa Shalabi, Section Chief, Middle East and North Africa, Operations and Advocacy Division, UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)
- Ms. Safiya Al-Jabry, Executive Director, Small and Micro Enterprise Promotion Service (SMEPS), Yemen



FRIDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2020

SESSION 9 TRADE IN TIMES OF COVID-19: EXPERIENCES OF FRAGILE AND CONFLICT AFFECTED STATES

In collaboration with the g7+ Secretariat and the g7+ WTO Accessions Group
10:00 - 11:30 CET

As the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded in 2020, fragile and conflict affected countries are among the hardest hit by its consequences as the most vulnerable. The pandemic and the counter measures aimed at combatting the spread of the virus have caused an upsurge of conflict, unemployment, social unrest and poverty. While insurgent groups continue in their violence, peace-making efforts are often undermined. The session will discuss the experiences of these countries and the steps necessary to mitigate the effect of the pandemic and to build resilience, including the need to minimize trade disruptions by preserving free trade and to pursue WTO membership as part of response to COVID-19.

Moderator:

- Ambassador Mohammad Qurban Haqjo, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the WTO and Chairperson of the g7+ WTO Accessions Group

Speakers:

- H.E. Francis Mustapha Kai-Kai, Minister of Planning and Economic Development of Sierra Leone and g7+ Chair
- Hon. Mawine G. Diggs, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Liberia
- Hon. Jeremiah Manele, Minister of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, Solomon Islands
- Representative of a bilateral or multilateral donor (TBD)



SESSION 10 – USING TRADE INTEGRATION TO PROMOTE PEACE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA: CASES OF AfCFTA AND WTO MEMBERSHIP

14:30 - 16:00 CET

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, African countries are facing decreased demand, falling commodity prices and disrupted supply chains. Deeper trade integration through the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) and WTO accessions can help African countries strengthen their regional and global trade channels, mitigate the negative impact on trade and promote peace across the continent – a mission even more crucial now than at the conception of the AfCFTA in 2018. All the African countries currently acceding to the WTO have signed the Agreement, signalling their conviction that WTO membership and AfCFTA participation are compatible and mutually beneficial. In the backdrop of delays to the implementation of the AfCFTA and contemporary challenges to the achievement of the WTO mandate, this session brings together experts to present actionable steps forward to promote peace through trade integration.

Moderator:

- Mr. Axel M. Addy, former Minister of Commerce & Industry of Liberia and Chief Negotiator for WTO Accession

Speakers:

- Ambassador Alan Wm. Wolff, Deputy Director-General, WTO
- Ambassador Albert M. Muchanga, Commissioner for Trade and Industry, African Union (TBC)
- Mr. Stephen N. Karingi, Director, Regional Integration and Trade Division, United Nations Economic for Africa (UNECA)
- Mr. Mamo Mihretu, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister and Chief Trade Negotiator, Ethiopia
- Hon. Agak Achuil, Undersecretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, South-Sudan
- Representative of Sudan (TBD)

