



REDUCING INEQUALITY THROUGH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

THE CHALLENGE FOR LDCS IN ACHIEVING THE 2030 AGENDA

Side event at the 4th Annual Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI FORUM 2019)

Tremendous technological leaps are being made globally, but the economic and social benefits remain geographically concentrated, primarily in developed countries. Too often the least developed countries (LDCs) remain far behind if not excluded entirely. This is not because LDCs lack the determination or the will to catch up with the rest of the world. What we are seeing is a result of the serious and manifold development challenges these countries continue to face, experiencing delays in their efforts to eradicate poverty, achieve sustainable development and participate fully in an increasingly competitive global market. One of the root causes is found in structural limitations, as there are marked gaps between LDCs and other countries in such areas as science, technology and innovation. If these gaps are not closed sooner rather than later, LDCs will not be able to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the global community would have failed in its obligation of “leaving no one behind”.

This side event will explore the challenges that LDCs face in their race to reduce their dependency on outdated and inefficient technologies and review the role of the international community in supporting LDCs in ensuring the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

A light lunch will be served from 12:30pm close to Cafe Vienna, top of ramp on the left side.

Moderator

Ms. Simmone Rose

Programme Management Officer, UN Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries

Speakers

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed

Deputy Secretary-General (tbc)

H.E. Chief Thesele Maseribane

Minister of Communications, Science and Technology, Lesotho

H.E. Prof. Nkandu Luo

Minister of Higher Education, Zambia (tbc)

Ms. Marianne Loe

Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations

H.E. K. Nagaraj Naidu

Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of India to the UN

Mr. Marco Scuriatti

Advisor to Senior Vice President, World Bank

Dr. Bilel Jamoussi

Chief of the Study Groups Department, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

Mr. Joshua Setipa

Managing Director, UN Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries

