



SUSTAINABILITY AT THE INTERSECTION OF TRADE, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

UNCTAD-CITES-OAS

**Side event to the Eighth Session of the Open Working Group on
Sustainable Development Goals
Meeting report**

Wednesday 5 February 2014, 1:15-2:45 pm

Conference Room E, UN Headquarters, New York

UNCTAD, the CITES Secretariat and OAS have jointly organised a side event titled: "Sustainability at the intersection of trade, environment and development" in the margins of the Eighth session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The event brought together high-level participants from trade and environment sectors and highlighted the prominent role of trade enabler for sustainable production and consumption, environmental and wildlife conservation, local economic development and enhanced livelihoods, especially in developing countries.

Ambassador Gustavo Meza-Cuadra of Peru chaired the meeting, which was attended by 37 participants including government representatives, international governmental organisations, civil society organisations and academia. Mr. Fernando Ocampo, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica gave the key note address to the event. The keynote address was followed by interventions from:

- Mr. Braulio Dias, Executive Secretary, of the CBD;
- Ms. Arancha González, Executive Director of ITC;
- Ms. Claudia S. de Windt, Chief, Environmental Law, Policy and Good Governance Department of Sustainable Development, OAS;
- Mr. Juan Carlos Vasquez, Legal Officer, CITES;
- Mr. Bonapas Onguglo, OIC, Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Branch, DITC, UNCTAD.

Following these interventions and discussions, the Chair summarised the main points raised as following:

- Trade should be recognised as a key enabler of future SDGs and targets in a general and integrated manner but also specifically in a potential goal and targets related to biodiversity, wildlife and ecosystem conservation;
- Trade can provide a clear vehicle to promote more sustainable production and consumption patterns as recognised by the Rio + 20 Outcome document;
- Addressing tariff and non-tariff barriers to environmental goods and sustainably harvested and produced biodiversity-based products can contribute to climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation;
- Specific targets are needed to ensure that sustainably harvested and produced products and services, such as BioTrade, are mainstreamed into international trade;
- The SDGs should incorporate a clear link between illicit wildlife trafficking and organized crime, and the economic, social and environmental impacts of such illicit trade;
- SDGs should contain a clear goal or target to eliminate poaching and illegal trade as a threat to wild species and local communities and the rural poor.

- Mechanisms, such as the disclosure of origin and legal source of genetic resources and traditional knowledge in intellectual property applications, must be introduced in the TRIPS Agreement and WIPO Treaties in order to address concerns regarding “biopiracy and misappropriation”;
- Peru and Costa Rica and other Members States will seek to work together in introducing trade as an enabler of SDGs in future discussions.

A full version of the programme, speeches made, meeting reports and news items can be found at:

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=507>

<http://cites.org/eng/news/sundry/2014/20140212-UNCTAD-CITES-OAS.php>

http://www.oas.org/en/sedi/dsd/ELPG/OAS-CITES-UNCTAD_EVENT.asp