Side Event at the United Nations Summit to adopt the post-2015 development agenda

“Launching the Technology Facilitation Mechanism for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals”

Co-organized by the Government of Brazil and the Government of France

Date:  26 September 2015
Time:  3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Venue:  Conference Room 12, the UN Headquarters, New York

Background and objective

This high-level side event will be convened by the Governments of France and Brazil in cooperation with the UN Interagency Task Team to mark the launch of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM). Its primary objective is to focus the attention of high-level national government representatives and other high-level decision makers, including Heads of State and Government, on the momentous decision, taken at the Addis Ababa Third International Conference on Financing for Development, to launch the TFM at the September Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda. It will provide an opportunity for those high-level representatives to express their expectations of the TFM and how their countries or organizations are prepared to support its operation, particularly the collaborative Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs and the online platform. The side event will also provide an opportunity to showcase the readiness and commitment of UN system organizations to support the TFM. The event will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss potential deliverables for the TFM.

Format

The side event will commence with short opening remarks by the Deputy Secretary General, followed by keynote addresses by Ministers of Brazil, France and India, followed by a panel discussion including Member States, heads of UN agencies, and private sector and civil society representatives. It will end with an interactive discussion where participants will have the opportunity to inquire in more detail on points of interest.
TENTATIVE AGENDA for discussion:

15:00 – 15:10  Welcome and opening statement  
H.E. Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

15:10 – 15:40  Keynotes by ministers of France, Brazil and India  
H.E. Mr. Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, France  
H.E. Mauro Vieira, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brazil  
Her Excellency Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary for Multilateral and Economic Relations, Ministry of External Affairs, India

15:40 – 16:20  Panel discussion on expectations for the TFM, moderated by Mr. Elliott Harris, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the New York Office of UNEP

- Ms. Megan Smith, US Chief Technology Officer, Office of Science and Technology Policy, and former Vice-President of Google, USA
- Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) head-quartered in South Africa
- Mr. Paulo Ernani Gadelha Vieira, President, Fiocruz, Brazil
- Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid, Member of the UN SG’s Scientific Advisory Board, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Science Advisor to the Prime Minister, Malaysia
- Mrs. Adeline Lescanne, CEO of Nutriset, France

16:20 - 16:55  Interactive discussion between the panellists and the audience

16:55 – 17:00  Closing remarks  
H.E. Mogens Lykketoft, President of the UN General Assembly