

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND TRADE FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH

ADDRESSING INEQUALITIES THROUGH PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT



19 June

14:30 to 16:00

A1



High-Level Panel

Promoting Sustainable Agriculture and Trade for Inclusive Growth:

- Addressing inequalities through private sector development and investment

European Development Days, Brussels, 19 June, 14:30-16:00, A1

BIODATA

Patrick Gomes, Secretary General, ACP Secretariat

Patrick Gomes –Secretary General, ACP Secretariat Dr. Patrick Ignatius Gomes of Guyana was elected the new Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) at the 100th Session of the Group's Council of Ministers, held at ACP Headquarters in Brussels on December 10, 2014. Prior to taking up his position as the Secretary General of the ACP Group, Dr. Gomes served as Guyana's Ambassador to Belgium and the European Community and as Guyana's representative to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Dr. Gomes also served as Chair of the Working Group on Future Perspectives of the ACP Group. He was the Dean of ACP Ambassadors in Brussels, and Chair of the Sub-Committee on Sugar and previously served as Chair of the Committee of Ambassadors, a decision-making body of the ACP Group. Dr Gomes has also worked for the United Nations as a senior adviser in Human Resources Development at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. He has authored numerous publications in the areas of development and social policy analysis and served as Chairman of the Board of Governors for the Maastricht-based think tank, European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM). Dr. Gomes will serve as Secretary General for the ACP for the period 2015 - 2020.

Michael Hailu –Director, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)

Michael Hailu, an Ethiopian national, is the Director of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) based in the Netherlands. CTA is a joint institution of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States and the European Union working under the Cotonou Partnership Agreement. Mr. Hailu has over 25 years of professional experience in agricultural research and development in Africa and Asia. Prior to joining CTA in mid-2010, he held senior leadership positions at the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) based in Nairobi, Kenya and at the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) in Indonesia. Mr. Hailu has led the development and implementation of CTA's 2011-2015 strategic plan refocusing the Centre's

work on three priority themes—supporting agricultural policies and strategies; enhancing inclusive value chains; and strengthening capacities of ARD institutions and networks in knowledge management and ICTs. He has degrees from the University of Pittsburgh and Addis Ababa University. He has also been trained in strategic leadership at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

Leonard Mizzi, Head of Unit, Rural Development, Food Security, Nutrition at Europeaid, European Commission

Leonard Mizzi – Head of Unit Rural Development, Food Security, Nutrition, Europeaid, European Commission Leonard Mizzi is a Maltese national, having started working in the Maltese public administration (Office of the Prime Minister in the late 80s) then moving to the Maltese private sector between 1996-2006 where he was the first Director of the Malta Business Bureau in Brussels- the joint office of the Hotels and Restaurants Association and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Malta. Since 2007 he joined the European Commission (DG Agriculture and Rural Development), first dealing with ACP countries and development and then inter-institutional affairs. In 2017, he joined DG DEVCO. Dr. Mizzi is a graduate of the University of Malta, CIHEAM-IAMM (Montpellier) and has a Ph.D from Reading University, UK – with a specialisation in food demand economics. He has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Malta, Open University and Boston University and occasionally College of Europe (Bruges). He is the author of a number of articles, specialising in Euro-Mediterranean issues, Malta-EU relations, agribusiness in island states and agribusiness and SME development.

Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary General, UNCTAD

Isabelle Durant is since July 2017 the Deputy Secretary General at UNCTAD. Former Minister and Senator of Belgium as well as Vice-President of the European Parliament, Ms Durant has a solid experience in public affairs, intergovernmental processes and concrete assistance to countries. Ms. Durant served as Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium and Minister of Transport and Energy for four years. Ms. Durant was in charge of the direct supervision on Mobility, Infrastructure, Energy and Sustainable Development policies between 1999 and 2003. As such, she chaired alongside the government of the time, the presidency of the European Union and particularly the presidency of the EU Council of Transport Ministers. As Vice-President of the European Parliament for the period 2009 to 2014, Ms. Durant chaired different permanent delegations (e.g. EU- ACP countries following the Cotonou agreement and Economic Partnership Agreements). She was also a member of the European Parliament Budget Committee, working with the European Investment Bank on Eurobonds supporting infrastructure investment as well as the following of Galileo (the European Union's Global Satellite Navigation System) which is an industrial project of considerable size providing an accurate global positioning. She was also the responsible Vice-President for the relations between the European Parliament and the civil society. As a Belgian Senator from 2003 - 2009, Ms. Durant served on the Committees for Foreign Affairs and Social Affairs. Immediately prior to becoming Deputy Secretary-General, Ms Durant was a member of the Parliament of the Brussels-Capital Region and of the Economic Affairs committee. In the framework of a large reform of regional economic tools, she was especially involved in innovation, sharing and circular economy. She holds a Masters of Science in Economic and Social Policy from the Universite Catholique de Louvain (UCL).

Zhi Yong Heng, Principal/Head of Trade Finance & Special Situations Group, TLG Capital

Zhi Yong Heng is a Fund Manager and Principal at TLG Capital with investment responsibilities across TLG's Private Credit and Equity Funds, including managing the Trade Finance and Special Situations business. TLG's Special Situations Group is a multi-asset class business, specialising in principal investing and lending across the capital structure on a risk-adjusted return basis. Zhi Yong is also a member of the firm's Credit Investment Committee and is responsible for spearheading the launch of TLG's Trade and Supply Chain Finance Fund with a focus on empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and supporting trade and distribution between Sub-Saharan Africa and rest of the world. Prior to joining TLG Capital, Zhi Yong worked for Davide Leone & Partners, focusing on special situations and event-driven strategies. Zhi Yong has had past experience working in the Investment Banking and

Investment Management divisions of various global financial institutions including Goldman Sachs. He holds a Bsc (Honours) in Economics and Statistics from the University College London. He also served with Distinction in the Singapore Military Force.

Mwala Mooto, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Mooto Cashew Suppliers Ltd, Zambia (EDD Youth)

Mwala Mooto is an ACCA qualified Accountant with over 6 years development finance experience in Zambia. His most recent engagement was with the British Council as Country Finance and Resources Manager for Zambia until he left in 2018 to run Mooto Cashew Suppliers Ltd, a company that he founded in 2015. The company operates as a social enterprise aimed at reforestation Zambia and addressing inequalities by empowering small holder farmers mostly women and youths with perennial cashew trees that will supply them with food and a stable income. He has established a network of small holder farmers operating in cooperatives who are trained on agricultural climate resilience and provided with cashew seedlings and other crops for planting. The company currently has a network of 100 smallholder farmers undergoing training and 50,000 cashew seedlings that will be supplied to these farmers for planting in the farming season. Mwala Mooto is an ACCA qualified Accountant with a BSc in Applied Accounting from Oxford Brookes University and is currently finalizing an MBA in Finance at the University of Zambia.

Concepción Blanco, Head of Sustainable Finance Solutions, BBVA Microfinance Foundation

Maria de la Concepcion Blanco is the Head of Sustainable Finance Solution at the BBVA Microfinance Foundation. She has a degree in economics from the Complutense University of Madrid, an MBA from the Instituto de Empresa (IE) and General Management Program from IESE. For more than twenty-five years, Concepcion has developed her professional career in the banking and financial sector, where she has held numerous positions and responsibilities, mainly related to the field of commercial activity and the development of financial products in different geographies. She has been Product Director of Uno-e Bank, Director of national collectives and agreements, and Director of Consumer Finance of BBVA in Eurasia. She has also taught on subjects specific to her specialty and published several publications in both national and international media. She is a regularly speaker at professional forums.

David Laborde, Senior Researcher, IFPRI

Dr. David Laborde Debucquet joined IFPRI, Washington DC, in 2007. He is a Senior Research Fellow in the Markets, Trade and Institutions Division and the Theme Leader on Macroeconomics and Trade for IFPRI. His research interests include globalization, international trade, measurement and modeling of protectionism, multilateral and regional trade liberalization as well as environmental issues (climate change, biofuels). He has developed the MACMapHS6 and the ADEPTA databases on tariffs as well as the TASTE software. He is a contributor to the GTAP database and a GTAP research fellow since 2005. Recently, he has been focusing on costing the roadmap to achieving SDG2 in a globalized context while considering the role of goods, capital, and migration flows. Beyond his work on databases, he has developed several partial and general equilibrium models applied to trade policy and environmental issues, including the MIRAGE and MIRAGRODEP models and their extensions. He has participated and organized training sessions for researchers and policy makers in several developing countries, with a special focus on sub-Saharan Africa. Prior to joining IFPRI, he was an Economist at the Centre d'Etudes Prospectives et d'Informations Internationales (CEPII), Paris between 2003 and 2007 and lecturer at the University of Pau (France). He received his PhD from the University of Pau in 2008. He has also worked as consultant for the European Commission, the Economic Commission for West Africa, the World Bank, USAID, and various UN agencies.