



Regional Seminar on
“Trade Facilitation for National Negotiators”
19 – 20 June 2006
United Nations House, Beirut, Lebanon

Tentative Agenda

Monday, 19 June

09:00 – 09:30 **Registration**

09:30 – 10:00 **Opening Ceremony**

- Representative of the ESCWA
- Representative of the World bank
- Representative of the World Customs Organization
- Representative of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

10:00 – 10:15 *Coffee Break*

10:15 – 10:30 Orientation on organizational matters related to the seminar

1st Session:

10:30 – 13:00 **Trade facilitation: Framework and main aspects:**

- I- Role of Trade Facilitation in enhancing trade performance and economic growth
- II- Historical background: Trade facilitation in the WTO

Discussion

Speakers: Mr. Andrew Stone, World Bank
Dr. Mohamed Radwan, ESCWA

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch Break offered by ESCWA Executive Secretariat*

2nd Session:

14:00 – 16:00 **The multilateral negotiations on Trade facilitation:**

- I- Negotiations mandate: Doha Ministerial Declaration and “July Package” 2004



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- II- Negotiations on Articles 5, 8 and 10 of GATT 1994
 - III- Positions of WTO member countries

Discussions

Speakers: Dr. Mohamed Radwan, ESCWA
Mr. Walid Al-Nozahi, Egypt

Tuesday, 20 June

3rd Session:

09:00 – 10:30 **Special issues for developing countries:**

- I- Needs and priorities of developing countries
- II- Technical assistance and capacity building

Discussions

Speakers: Mr. Majed Hammoudeh, ESCWA

10:30 – 10:45 *Coffee Break*

4th Session:

10:45 – 13:00 **Simplification and documentation requirements for trade facilitation:**

- I- Trade documents and cross border information exchange
- II- WCO tools and instruments for trade facilitation
- III- Costs related to the proposed trade facilitation measures

Discussions

Speakers: Mr. Markus Pikart (UNECE), Mr. Ray McDonagh (WCO)

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch Break*

5nd Session:

14:00 – 16:00 **Trade facilitation audit: The case of Lebanon:**

Speakers: Mr. Hamid Halavi, World Bank