



UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

NON-TARIFF MEASURES WEEK
TRADE REGULATIONS AND VOLUNTARY SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

9-11 October 2018, Room XXV, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Final Agenda

Regulatory and non-regulatory measures have become more salient in international trade. Increasingly used for trade and non-trade objectives, they impact all areas of our lives: social, environmental and economic. To this end, UNCTAD will host the 4th NTM week in Geneva, Switzerland, on October 9-11, 2018. The NTM week will provide a platform for policymakers, practitioners and researchers to discuss cutting-edge issues surrounding the impact of non-tariff measures (NTMs), including voluntary sustainability standards (VSS), on international trade and sustainable development. Together, they will consider ways of “shaping sustainable trade amid protectionism”.

Sessions will discuss the role and impact of:

- National and regional regulatory coherence and cooperation
- Channels connecting VSS to inclusive trade
- International standard-setting bodies
- Data innovations
- Research advances
- Classification of NTMs and MAST group
- Transparency in trade regulations

<http://unctad.org/ntmsweek>

Contact: ntm@un.org

MAST group members



UNFSS members



NTMs Week 2018
9-11 October 2018 - Room XXV

Tuesday, 9 October 2018

10-10.15 a.m. Opening remarks

NTMs, voluntary standards and the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

**10.15 a.m.-
12 noon Policy debate: The role of Trade Regulations and Voluntary Standards for Sustainable Development**

The session examines the potential of trade regulations and voluntary standards as powerful tools in the achievement of Sustainable Development.

**12 noon-
1 p.m. The unseen impact of NTMs and VSS**

From data collection via research and analysis towards sound policy support: the session provides an overview of the NTMs Week and outlines recent achievements in the global NTMs and VSS agendas

Lunch break

3-4.30 p.m. From data to policy: national NTM initiatives to pursue good regulatory practices

National policymakers discuss methodologies, lessons learned and challenges to develop and streamline NTMs.

4.30-6 p.m. Regulatory cooperation: innovative approaches at the regional and multilateral level

Regional and multilateral cooperation can lower trade costs while maintaining regulatory benefits such as the protection of health and the environment. This session explores concrete solutions and lessons learnt.

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Wednesday, 10 October 2018

- 11.30 a.m.-
1 p.m.** **Transparency in action: NTMs data mapping and dissemination**
- The session provides an overview about available information on NTM data for the private sector, researchers and policy makers.
- Lunch break**
- 3-4.30 p.m.** **Publications and analytical tools for policy analysis of NTMs**
- The session illustrates some of the material and analytical tools intended to inform policymakers and to guide trade practitioners in the analysis of the effects of NTMs on international trade and economic welfare.
- 4.30-6 p.m.** **Use of NTMs data in research, analysis and policy advocacy**
- This session discusses the relevance of NTM data for research and analysis and illustrates some policy questions that can be informed by the analysis of NTMs data.
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Thursday, 11 October 2018

**10–11.30 a.m. Merging market interests with development interests:
Approaches with Voluntary Sustainability Standards**

The session discusses VSS' contribution to inclusive growth.

**11.30 a.m.-
1 p.m. Voluntary Standards, Sustainable Development and Trade:
UNFSS 3rd Flagship Report**

The United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards (UNFSS) presents its 2018 flagship report (including the VSS National Platforms in Brazil, China and India)

Lunch break

3–4.30 p.m. In search of equitable VSS: Evidence from the field

The session discusses the findings from UNCTAD field studies in Vanuatu, Lao PDR and the Philippines Presentation of the outcome of the International Convention on Sustainable Trade and Standards in India.

4.30-5 p.m. Closing session
