8th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference

PROGRAMME

(Without confirmed speakers)





8th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference

PERIOD:

14 to 16 November 2011

VENUE:

United Nations, Palais des Nations, E-Building, Geneva, Switzerland.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Senior decision-makers in the area of debt management and public

finance.

OBJECTIVE:

The Conference will explore current and topical issues in debt management and public finance. Themes include:

> o Principles for responsible sovereign lending borrowing

> The rising debt of the developed world and implications for developing countries

Debt Resolution Mechanisms

Interactions between government domestic borrowing needs and the corporate sector

Management of risks in debt management

Debt management and integrated public financial management

The capacity-building needs of developing countries

International organizations' responses to the changing needs of developing countries

Presenters will include a balance between countries' experts, academia, civil society and representatives from international and regional organizations. Debate and discussions will be promoted.

INVITATIONS:

Sent to all UNCTAD member countries, a large number of international and regional organizations and selected nongovernmental organization and academia representatives

CONFERENCE ROOM: XIX, E-building, Palais des Nations, Geneva

INTERPRETATION:

The Conference will be interpreted simultaneously into Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

DOCUMENTATION:

Presentations delivered will be in English, French or Spanish. All papers will be made available in electronic format, following the Conference on, the DMFAS website, www.unctad.org/dmfas.

REGISTRATION AND OPENING

08.00 - 09.00 Security control to enter United Nations grounds

At the Pregny Gate of the United Nations compound. Entry badges will be prepared in advance for all registered participants. All participants are requested to bring their passports along with their original registration form (a copy of which should also have been sent by fax or by e-mail before arrival for notification purposes).

09.00 - 10.00 Participation list and agenda

Participants are requested to announce their presence to the Conference Secretariat on arrival, at which time their presence is recorded in the participation list of the Conference. This will take place in front of the Conference Room XIX, E-building, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Participants will also receive the final agenda as well as other relevant documentation at this stage.

10.00 - 10.30 Opening of the 8th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference

Opening remarks by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi

DEBT CRISES: LEARNING FROM THE PAST, PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

10.30 - 11.00 Introductory Note

This introductory note will provide an overview of the past debt crises, identifying common trends and differences. It will also highlight new developments that may lead to future debt crises, and discuss how these could be prevented.

11.00 - 13.00 Panel: Principles for Promoting Responsible Sovereign Lending and Borrowing

UNCTAD will launch the Principles for Promoting Responsible Sovereign Lending and Borrowing at this session. The formulation and agreement on principles for sovereign lending and borrowing are a major step, which will help prevent (and if necessary resolve) future debt problems. What are the main factors considered? How will these affect borrowing strategies and lending policies?

13.00 -15.00 Lunch break

15.00 - 16.30 Panel: Rising Debt of the Developed World and Implications for Developing Countries

What do the increasing debt levels in Europe, the United States and Japan mean for growth in the developing world? What are the implications for the availability of funding from the official and private sectors? How can the developing world prepare itself for these developments?

16.30 – 18.00 Panel: Debt Resolution Mechanisms: Should there be a Statutory Mechanism for Resolving Debt Crises?

The euro zone debt crisis has again raised the issue of debt resolution mechanisms. This session will explore the need for such mechanisms for the resolution of debt crises. Should they be global or regional in nature?

18.00 - 19.30 Cocktail

All participants are cordially invited to attend the welcome cocktail.

DEBT MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

10.00 - 10.30 Introductory Note

This address will provide an overview of increasing integration of debt management into the broader public financial management framework.

10.30 - 11.45 Panel: Interactions between Government Domestic Borrowing Needs and the Corporate Sector

Over the past few years, governments have been trying to reduce risks by relying more on domestic capital markets. What are the implications for the financing policies of their corporate sectors?

11.45 - 13.00 Optimal Uses of Risk Management Techniques

How can risk management techniques be applied to minimize debt management problems and crises? What is the optimal way to integrate risk management into debt strategy formulation and debt sustainability analysis?

13.00 -15.00 Lunch break

15.00 - 16.30 Panel: Debt Management Offices: New Developments and Challenges

This session will address new developments and challenges confronting the Debt management Office (DMO) and how the DMO is dealing with these? How are these challenges affecting their structure and staffing? What trends can be identified?

16.30-18.00 Panel: Debt Management and Integrated Public Financial Management: Experiences and implications for the Debt Manager?

Debt management is becoming increasingly integrated into the broader public financial management framework (such as with treasury, budget, cash management, audit, broader liability and in particular contingent liability management, aid management and asset-liability management). What experiences, challenges and implications for the Debt Manager?

MANAGING THE DEBT

10.00 - 11.20 Panel: Countries' Perspectives on Capacity-Building Needs in Debt Management

Debt Managers continue to be confronted with new challenges, be they new financing options, demands to integrate the discipline into the broader public financial management framework, or to manage the risks inherent in the debt portfolio. At the same time, they are confronted by persistent challenges such as attracting and retaining qualified staff. How do they develop the capacity to address these changing priorities? How are these needs being manifested in government priorities and planning?

11.20 – 12.40 Panel: Capacity-Building Needs in Debt Management: Responses from International Organizations

How are the needs of developing countries being addressed by international organizations? This session will review the services, systems, standards and other assistance currently available or planned.

12.40 -13.00 Wrap-up and Closing by Mr. Heiner Flassbeck, Director of the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies of UNCTAD

14.30 -17.30 Complementary information sessions and presentations on selected topics on debt management will be organised by international/bilateral organizations in the afternoon.