



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM TRADE AND INDUSTRY

REPORT OF THE 4th NATIONAL TRADE SECTOR REVIEW CONFERENCE
HELD AT SPEKE RESORT MUNYONYO KAMPALA, UGANDA ON 14th
OCTOBER, 2010

*THEME: IMPROVING COMPETITIVENESS AND DOING BUSINESS
ENVIRONMENT*



EPA TAPSS
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
RELATED TRADE AND PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT



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LIST OF ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Integration
CET	Common External Tariffs
CICS	Competitive and Investment Climate Strategy
CM	Common Market
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CU	Customs Union
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EAC	East African Community
EDF	European Development Fund
EIB	European Investment Bank
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EPA TAPSS	Economic Partnership Agreement Related Trade and Private Sector Support (Program)
EPRC	Economic Policy Research Centre
EPZ	Economic Processing Zone(s)
ESA	Eastern and Southern Africa
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FTA	Free Trade Area
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MIS	Market Information System
MOWT	Ministry of Works and Transport
MRA	Mutual Recognition Agreement
MTTI	Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry
MU	Monetary Union
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Area
NDP	National Development Plan
NPA	National Planning Authority
NTB	Non Tariff Barrier
NTSRC	National Trade Sector Review Conference
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PS	Permanent Secretary
PTA	Preferential Trade Area
RA	Regional Agreements
SACU	Southern Africa Customs Union
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary
UNBS	Uganda National Bureau of Standards
UNCCI	Uganda National Chamber of Commerce and Industry
US	United States
WB	World Bank
WTO	World Trade Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 4th National Trade Sector Review Conference (NTSRC) was held on the 14th October, 2010 at Speke Resort Munyonyo, in Kampala under the theme “*Improving Competitiveness and Doing Business Environment*”.

The objectives of the Conference were to:

- (i) Identify and prioritize interventions required to boost the country’s Doing Business environment and competitiveness with a view to tapping the opportunities available in the EAC and the EU
- (ii) Apprise key stakeholders on the steps Government has so far taken in improving the doing business environment and improving competitiveness
- (iii) Make recommendations on the way forward in the trade sector in the bilateral, regional and multilateral arrangements.

Discussions at the Conference were held under three thematic areas, namely;

- (i) Implementation of the NTP; improving competitiveness and business environment
- (ii) Regional Integration; harnessing the opportunities
- (iii) Implementation of the NDP; A Focus on Trade Development

A Public Private Partnership approach was used in the discussions at the Conference, with facilitators drawn from both the public and private sectors.

Key issues that emerged from the discussions included the importance of Regional Integration, using trade as a means of accelerating growth and development; improving competitiveness and the Doing Business environment, and expanding and exploiting regional and international markets through the implementation of the National Trade Policy. To achieve the above policy actions, key action points were identified and summarized by the Conference as being; improvement of the regulatory framework such as reviewing and enacting the relevant commercial laws and policies, developing national capacity to take advantage of market opportunities, promoting regional integration through removal of NTBs and harmonizing standards in the region and further facilitating trade, including provision of better trade infrastructure. The efforts so far achieved by the government in promoting trade were applauded, which included; ensuring macro-economic stability, improving the Doing Business environment.

The Conference noted the importance of the State adopting a Public-Private Partnership as a tool for improving Private Sector growth as an engine for economic growth and improving competitiveness, through capacity building to take advantage of the available market opportunities, both regional and international. The importance of modernizing agriculture was overly emphasized before effective industrialization can be achieved.

It was noted that the Frame-work for an Economic Partnership Agreement was initialed in 2007. It had been hoped that the negotiations would be concluded by 2008, which was not achieved. Uganda was called upon to ensure the conclusion of the on-going trade negotiations between the European Union and EAC.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Tourism Trade and Industry, with support from the European Union under the Economic Partnership Agreement Related Trade and Private Sector Support Programme (EPA TAPSS), hosted the 4th National Trade Sector Review Conference (NRSRC) on the 14th October, 2010 at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala under the theme: “*Improving Competitiveness and the Doing Business Environment*”.

The Conference aimed at assessing the progress made in implementing recommendations of the previous conferences and the commitments in the National Trade Policy (NTP), and chart the way forward for accelerating growth in the sector in view of the opportunities created by the EAC integration process as well as market openings in developed countries.

The conference was attended by the Ministry’s political leadership and technical staff, technical staff of relevant ministries, Members of Parliament on the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry and other relevant committees, Chairpersons of selected Parliamentary Committees, prominent local and international investors and private sector players, selected District Commercial Officers the Academia, Private Sector Associations, Civil Society Organizations, and Development Partners.

Discussions at the Conference were held under three thematic areas, namely;

- (i) Implementation of the NTP; improving competitiveness and business environment
- (ii) Regional Integration; harnessing the opportunities
- (iii) Implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP); A Focus on Trade Development

The objectives of the Conference were to:

- i) Identify and prioritize interventions required to boost the country’s Doing Business environment and competitiveness with a view to tapping the opportunities available in the EAC and the EU
- ii) Apprise key stakeholders on the steps Government has so far taken in improving the doing business environment and improving competitiveness
- iii) Make recommendations on the way forward in the trade sector in the bilateral, regional and multilateral arrangements

To facilitate and enrich the plenary discussions, Papers on the thematic areas were presented by experts, leadership of the Ministry and the Private Sector; which is a key development partner in the trade sector.

2.0 PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE

2.1 SESSION 1: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL TRADE POLICY; IMPROVING COMPETITIVENESS AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The session was chaired by Dr. Maggie Kigozi, Executive Director Uganda Investment Authority. The Minister of Tourism, Trade and Industry, Hon. Maj. Gen. Kahinda Otafiire, officially opened the Review Conference. The session also covered the Keynote

address by Mr. Bernard Hoekman, Director, International Development, World Bank, a presentation on Trade and National Development; the Complementary Roles of Government, Development Partners and the Private Sector by Mr. Harvey Rouse, representing the Head of Delegation of the European Union in Uganda and Expanding and Exploiting Regional and International Markets: Implementing the National Trade Policy by Ambassador Julius B. Onen, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry respectively. The session was discussed by Hon. Gerald Ssendaula, Chairman Private Sector Foundation Uganda.

2.1.1 Welcome remarks

In his welcome remarks, Hon. Maj. Gen. Kahinda Otafiire noted that for countries to salvage themselves from poverty, their economies have to improve competitiveness and doing business environment by fostering a culture of peace and security to facilitate business. The Minister advised that there is need for developing sufficient capacity to process raw materials and engage in value addition. He stressed that this would fetch the country increased export earnings and create more employment opportunities.



Hon. Major General Kahinda Otafiire, Minister of Tourism Trade and Industry, officially opening the Review Conference at Munyonyo

The Minister underscored the deliberate key interventions government has taken to promote Competitiveness and improve the Doing Business environment, such as the continuous efforts in infrastructure development to facilitate trade; which has resulted in among other things, increased exports in the region and international markets. Note was made of the need to take steps to address the informal cross border trade. Energy development was also singled out as a prerequisite in improving competitiveness and

Doing Business environment at local and international level. Government has made positive strides in policy formulation and laws such as the National oil and Gas Policy for Uganda 2002, the Mineral Policy for Uganda 2000, The Petroleum Supply Act, No. 13/2003, Petroleum (Marking & Quality Control) Regulations, 2009, The Mining Act, 2003 and The Mining Act (Commencement) Instrument, 2004.

The Hon. Minister noted the importance of the need to develop infrastructure such as roads, rail lines (Standard Gauge Railway Network Project), water and ports networks as being essential for competitiveness and Doing Business environment and pointed out government's commitment to continue investing in these areas. Some other highlighted steps in improving the Doing Business environment included was the noted security guaranteed by government and its marked efforts in enacting and reviewing trade related laws such as the Anti-Counterfeit Bill which is before Parliament for consideration and the Trade (Licensing) Act, Cap. 101 respectively. In the latter Act, principals for amending the Act have been identified and are under Cabinet's consideration, whereas other efforts by government include; harmonizing taxation, business registration procedures and other commercial laws. The government has also pursued RI especially under EAC where the common market was launched on 1st July, 2010.

2.1.2 Trade and National Development; The Complementary Roles of Government, Development Partners and the Private Sector

Speaking on the complementary roles of government, Development Partners and the Private Sector in trade and National Development, Mr. Harvey applauded the government in promoting trade, ensuring macro-economic stability and creation of good business environment, including establishment of one stop shops. Mr. Harvey noted that Uganda has consistently registered economic growth at 5% per annum and stated that Cooperation between Uganda and the European Union goes deep. It was noted that trade is a life blood of the economy and the growth of trade shows economic growth of a nation. He noted Uganda's increased exports to Kenya and Tanzania by 50%. He further noted that the 2010 Doing Business Report placed Uganda at 112 out of 183 economies, which is considered poor and called on all stakeholders to address all the constraints that negatively affect Uganda's ranking in the Global Doing Business Reports.



Mr. Harvey Rouse, of the EU Delegation making a presentation at the Conference

Mr. Harvey stressed that the European Union remains committed to helping Uganda achieve her development needs, citing the increasing allocation to, among others, infrastructure development under the successive European Development Funds (EDF). He also noted EU support to Public-Private Partnerships such as the European Investment Bank which funded the Bujagali Power Dam by providing 125 Million Euros.

The EU representative called for the need by the Government to implement proper strategic planning and better allocation of resources, and the need to create inter-linkages between ministries such as Agriculture and Trade. He further noted that there was dire need to address problems such as poor post harvest handling, pests and disease control. Mr. Harvey then stated that Development Partners only play a complementary role to the State, observing that if Government priorities do not favor trade, then development partners will not support trade and called upon the State to prioritize its sectors so as to attain its development objectives.

He pointed out the importance of promoting policy dialogue and called on government to take advantage of the expertise of the European Union in policy matters. He also noted that trade in goods will not flourish without addressing certain issues, such as SPS measures and standards. He emphasized the need for MTTI to work with local authorities to promote trade and enhance coordination between MTTI and the local authorities.

Mr. Harvey underscored the importance of regional integration, stressing that the initiative of creating Regional Trade Agreements is vital, with a plea for further leadership in that area by the Government. He pointed out that the European Union gave duty free and quota free market access to EAC Partner States and expressed concern that the framework

for an Economic Partnership Agreement initialed in 2007 remains unsigned to-date. He called for further strengthening of this trading relationship as being vital and a priority through the signing of the EPA.

2.1.4 Keynote Address on: Trade as a Means of Accelerating Growth and Development; Improving Competitiveness and the Doing Business

Mr. Bernard Hoekman of the World Bank delivered the key note address on Trade Competitiveness: Challenges and Opportunities for Uganda. He noted that Uganda's participation in multilateral cooperation is vital and should always bear in mind and prepare for volatility in the system. He emphasized the importance of diversification as key in trade to support sustained growth.

Mr. Hoekman advised that improving competitiveness has become vital, thus the need to develop policies that create favorable conditions that help firms to survive and grow. He also emphasized the need to bolster efforts to create a single EAC market to help firms penetrate global and regional markets, as well as the need to eliminate barriers to exports in high growth developing markets. He stated that East African countries' trade is below their potential; and hence the countries need to explore the possibility of reaching their full trade capacity.



Mr. Bernard Hoekman of the World Bank delivering the Keynote Address

Mr. Hoekman pointed out some of the factors that affect the competitiveness of firms as being;

- (i) The availability/cost/quality of labor, credit, and infrastructure services (energy; roads; ports)

- (ii) Transactions and transport/logistics costs
- (iii) Macro- economic policies

He stated that these factors can greatly raise production/trade costs because they increase prices of inputs, including imported intermediate goods and equipment and advised that the vitality of bringing these costs down is key for competitiveness. Mr. Hoekman informed the Conference that the World Bank Group provides trade related support in areas such as; trade competitiveness, trade facilitation and logistics, trade finance, trade cooperation and trade data. On components of logistics performance, he stated that Uganda trails on infrastructure, tracking and tracing and logistics competence. He further cited that Uganda's competitiveness was suffering from its landlocked position and recommended that it is vital to make the Central Corridor (Dar ES Salaam-Kampala) a viable alternative to complement the Northern Corridor, including improvements to the Mutukula Border post and rehabilitation of rail-lake services.

With regard to Non-Tariff Barriers, he observed that modest progress has been made with notable reductions in the number of road blocks and faster clearance times at key border posts, although most of the thirty five (35) NTBs that were identified and agreed on for immediate removal by EAC members in December 2008 remain in place.

Mr. Hoekman further noted that the costs and quality of other services are also vital for trade competitiveness. He also advised that professional services in EAC are crucial for the functioning of economies, with particular reference to accounting and legal services that can help reduce transaction costs which are significant impediments to growth in Africa. He pointed out that the share of business services in the GDP of East African countries is less than 3% and in 2001-2007 the sector grew at 8% per year in Kenya, 14% per year in Tanzania and at 18% per year in Uganda. He also identified, in addition to costs and quality of professional and secondary education, trade barriers, regulatory requirements and immigration policies.

He identified the following policy actions that need to be undertaken at a regional level;

- (a) Enforcement of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA). He stated that a Common Market Protocol adopted in 2009 includes an annex on a framework agreement on mutual recognition for academic and professional qualifications. He recommended that implementation of a fully-fledged MRA would need to cover areas such as;
 - i. Harmonizing education, through accreditation of schools or academic programs
 - ii. Standardizing Examinations through qualifying examinations
 - iii. Recognizing Practicing Experience by setting the length and nature of experience required for licensing
 - iv. Adhering to Code of Conduct and Ethics by setting standards of professional conduct and imposing disciplinary action for non-conformity with those standards

- v. Recognizing post-professional development and re-certification through continuing education and ongoing requirements to maintain professional certification
 - vi. Scope of practice through setting scope of practice Local knowledge, setting as a condition the requirement for knowledge of local laws, regulations, language, geography or climate
- (b) Addressing Immigration Policies; this would entail use of experience of regional groupings such as EU or APEC business mobility recommended for practical guidance through removal of restrictions on free movement of labour, including visa and immigration laws and regulations, and labor policies to allow mobility of business people as key for promotion of free and open trade. EAC has already achieved this objective with establishment of the Common Market. Through the Common Market Protocol, Member States have committed themselves to enhance business mobility by exchanging information on regulatory regimes and streamlining immigration processes for business travelers and workers and temporary residence of business people.
- (c) Developing appropriate Standards; he advised that uniformity of standards may improve quality, completeness, and comparability of reported information. He observed that applying International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) to large firms and to SMEs is disadvantageous to SMEs. IFRS are excessively costly for SMEs and often prevent them from using auditing and accounting services, a problem which has been identified in Tanzania and Uganda. He recommended that if the market requires variety to satisfy different types of users, then a single standard is not appropriate, and that dual standards tailored to specific needs of firms by size are worth considering in East Africa. He further recommended that differentiated services provided to different types of firms may be most efficiently delivered by different classes of accounting professionals highly skilled versus middle-level.

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Hoekman stated that NTBs are a continuing problem, particularly for Uganda given her land locked nature. He noted that other border procedures and customs-related issues also remain an impediment to faster flow of trade although significant improvements have been registered. He advised that it is possible to work with Aid for Trade Facilitation Partnership members and use WB Trade Facilitation Facility to address specific trade facilitation issues.

2.1.5 Expanding and Exploiting Regional and International Markets: Implementing the National Trade Policy

The Permanent Secretary MTTI while delivering a presentation on expanding and exploiting regional and international markets: implementing the NTP, highlighted the major challenges as being;

- (a) Persistence of Non-tariff barriers and proposed that a joint meeting would be held with Partner States counterparts.

- (b) Standards were highlighted to be the backbone of trade. He noted that Uganda already has the Uganda Bureau of Standards, which regulates standards. He however advised that there are a lot of domestic standards that must be put on board.
- (c) Harmonizing Regulatory frame-work; he noted that effort has been made to review and enact laws, in a bid to address legal regime matters affecting trade.

He advised on key interventions to address some of the key challenges affecting Uganda's competitiveness as being;

- (i) A regional standard mechanism to eliminate the Non-Tariff Barriers
- (ii) Setting up a national team to identify Uganda's strategic interests
- (iii) Minimizing the export of raw-materials, and adding value to Uganda's products
- (iv) Building capacity to address post harvest handling problems.
- (v) Developing a Public Private Partnership for effective trade development
- (vi) Developing a new economic diplomatic approach; involving key stake-holders as key players in the economy, and calling for more Private Sector involvement.
- (vii) Promoting Tourism as a trade in services, with note being made of the good performance in the education services sector.
- (viii) Coordinating more with the District Commercial Offices, since trade starts from the grassroots
- (ix) Trade being cross-cutting, Government should establish a Cabinet Sub-committee to deal with trade matters



Amb. Julius B. Onen, Permanent Secretary, MTTI making a presentation

Policy recommendations from the plenary discussion included the following:

- (a) Re-evaluating the Government's contribution to development programs, since donor funds are tied to certain activities,
- (b) Enabling development in sectors of the economy where the State has a priority.
- (c) Modernizing agriculture with emphasis on increasing quantities and adding value so as to take advantage of the numerous market access opportunities harmonizing the different standards within the EAC region.
- (d) Having a Public Private Partnership policy formulated
- (e) Enacting and reviewing the necessary commercial laws to improve the Doing Business environment and a further call to proper channeling of resources for optimal use.
- (f) Focusing on improving human capacity development through technical skills
- (g) Increasing investment in and supervision of Public & Private Educational Institutions.
- (h) Discussions on terrorism, insurance and climate change should be included on the agenda for discussion at the NTSRC fora.
- (i) Increasing budget funding allocation to MTTI by Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development as the current budget allocation is insufficient to cover the requisite trade development activities
- (j) Enhancing market intelligence for different markets to benefit from the different business opportunities.
- (k) Better management of newly discovered resources such as oil
- (l) Fast-tracking of commercial laws, such as the Consumer Protection law and the Competition law
- (m) The Private Sector, being a Partner in Development, should ensure certain aspects such as product development standards and value addition.

3 SESSION 2: REGIONAL INTEGRATION; HARNESSING THE OPPORTUNITIES

Ms. Annet Muyimba, the Head of Marketing and International Business, Makerere University Business School chaired the session. The session covered a presentation on Harnessing Trade Opportunities in the East African Community Common Market and the Common Market for Eastern and South Africa by Dr. Ndlovu Lindani, a Trade Consultant and 'Improving Competitiveness and Doing Business environment in Uganda; what needs to be done' by Dr. Samuel Sejjaaka, Deputy Principal Makerere University Business School. The presentations were discussed by Dr. Peter Ngategize, the National Co-ordinator CICS Secretariat, MFPED and Ms. Maria Kiwanuka, Managing Director Radio One, respectively.

3.1 Harnessing Trade and Investment Opportunities in the East African Community Common Market and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

The presentation set out comparisons of key attributes between EAC and COMESA in the areas of population, GDP (current Market Price) and Trade volumes indicating the opportunities that can be harnessed as shown below:

Table: 1; Comparisons of Key Attributes between EAC and COMESA

Key Attribute	EAC COMMON MARKET	COMESA
Population (June 2010)	133.5 million	400 million
GDP (current market price) (2009)	\$74.5 billion	USD 360 Billion
Intra EAC Trade (2005-08)/COMESA- 2008 growth	From US\$1,847.3 million to US\$2,715.4 million	from US \$3.2 billion to US\$15.2 billion US dollars in 2008

3.1.1 Factors for Harnessing Trade and Investment

Mr. Ndlovu highlighted factors for harnessing trade and investment as being;

- (a) Improving an area's business climate,
- (b) Improving education and training strengths/ standards,
- (c) Strengthening labour unionization and increasing labour productivity
- (d) Maintaining and Cultivating positive attitude change of local and state governments,
- (e) Providing trade and investment incentives to the business community
- (f) Maintaining and cultivating positive, community attitude change,
- (g) Regulating competitive industries in the area of operation
- (h) Lowering transport costs,
- (i) Ensuring availability of transportation facilities,
- (j) Easing access to land use
- (k) Regulating the cost of Labour, ,
- (l) Proximity and access to markets,
- (m) Harmonizing tax structures and states,
- (n) Improving access to insurance opportunities ,
- (o) Increasing access to trade finance,
- (p) Easing access to banking services,
- (q) maintaining physical infrastructures,
- (r) Easing access to raw materials,
- (s) Having conducive labor laws.

3.1.2 Uganda's Key Challenges in Harnessing Trade and Investment Opportunities

The following were noted by Dr. Ndlovu as being the key challenges affecting Uganda's capacity to harness trade and investment opportunities:

- (a) Low intra-regional trade due to inadequate knowledge of regional markets and production mainly of agricultural products for trade that are not complementary in nature and thus affecting diversification
- (b) Low regional linkages in transport by road, railway, water and air due to its land-locked nature
- (c) Export structure remains concentrated on few primary commodities

- (d) Persistence of NTBs
- (e) Doing Business factors such as, low business formalization
- (f) Time taken to import and export is documented at 37 days by the Doing Business Reports compared to other better practice economies
- (g) Time taken to register property is too long
- (h) Investor protection is low
- (i) There is a high cost of and access to finance
- (j) High costs of production
- (k) Poor road and transport network which militate against regional integration

3.1.3 Dealing with Uganda's Challenges in Harnessing Trade & Investment Opportunities

Dr. Ndlovu, after enumerating several challenges, proposed the way forward to dealing with challenges as outlined below:

- a. The need for government advocacy for the importance of mindset change amongst the populace to curb corruption
- b. Adopting a public-private partnership approach as key to achieving Private Sector growth and development
- c. Addressing fiscal issues by the State
- d. Establishing Economic Processing Zones
- e. Strengthening Regional markets is a viable option, such as the EAC and COMESA
- f. Improving post harvest handling of products including storage facilities.
- g. Increasing value addition by the private sector to improve on the competitiveness of Ugandan products both in regional and international markets
- h. Creating a Market Information System on production and market access for increased business opportunities (MIF)
- i. Addressing supply side constraints and setting standards for the quality of goods
- j. Having a structured and focused entrepreneurship
- k. Oil discovery and targeted production be used as bases on which investment in infrastructure development can be stepped up
- l. Services development be done to complement investment
- m. Addressing and removing of NTBs
- n. Supporting further commercialization of agriculture
- o. Using the National Development Plan as a strategic tool for strategic planning and development
- p. Increasing investment in the area of science and technology.
- q. Mobilizing of farmers by the government to provide markets for farm out-puts.



Participants at the Conference listen attentively to proceedings

3.2 Improving the Competitiveness and Doing Business Environment in Uganda; what needs to be done

Dr. Samuel Sejjaka, Deputy Principal, Makerere University Business School made a presentation on improving competitiveness and the business environment in Uganda, challenges and what is required to address the identified challenges.

He observed that a disorganized environment is equal to uncompetitive environment and underlined the importance of organized management for increased trade competitiveness. He further noted that there is the human Resource Dilemma which calls for good work ethic, high productivity, efficient public sector, taming corruption tendencies and considering mindset change.

He urged for a focus on the development (Blues) aspects which were stated as being;

- (a) The Energy Trap; which has led to the destruction of forest cover and ecosystems that leads to high unit cost of production and thus high cost of doing business
- (b) Infrastructure Trap; where he noted that there is need for improvement in the network of roads, railways and public utilities, he further noted that poor infrastructure largely reduces competitiveness and consequently leads to high costs of production.
- (c) The debt Trap; he advised that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is currently fickle and fluid; and is not a panacea to development.

Consequently, he further advised that the following ought to be done so as to address the above challenges;

- a) Enforcing the regulatory framework for enhancement of the business environment
- b) Protecting property rights
- c) Setting up efficient Dispute Resolution Mechanisms
- d) Improving quality of infrastructure,
- e) The need for government investment in Uganda Development Corporation to provide cheaper financial services
- f) Energy be made a priority and develop renewable energy at all costs
- g) Improve the quality of the labour complimented through technical training Having MTTI ensure value addition along the value chain
- h) Conducive regulation for the investment environment
- i) Increasing intervention in the Private Sector by streamlining its activities

4.0 SESSION 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN; A FOCUS ON TRADE DEVELOPMENT

Hon. J. B Lubyayi, Chair, Tourism, Trade & Industry Sessional Committee of Parliament, chaired the session on the Implementation of the NDP, A focus on Trade Development. Dr. Twineemanzi Tumubwine from Uganda Development Corporation presented a paper on Developing Regional Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: Positioning Uganda for Private Sector Development. The paper was discussed by Dr. Luke Okumu from Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC). Mr. Ojakol Silver, Commissioner, External Trade, MTTI made a presentation on “Trade Development in the Context of Implementing the National Development Plan.

4.1 Regional Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: Positioning Uganda for Private Sector Development

Dr. Twineemanzi reviewed the various levels of Regional Integration where countries cooperate at different levels. The cooperation is aimed at increasing trade amongst the Partner States and as a consequence increases economic growth, as well as the welfare of citizens, which also fosters political and social stability in the integrated region. The different levels at which countries integrate were enumerated as being;

- (a) Preferential Trade Area (PTA); this is where countries give each other preferential access to certain products from their trading partners and tariffs are reduced on these products but not abolished.
- (b) Free Trade Area (FTA); this is where countries eliminate tariffs between themselves, and maintain their own External Tariff on imports from the rest of the world.
- (c) Customs Union; this is where countries eliminate tariffs between themselves and set a common external tariff on imports from the rest of the world.

- (d) Common Market; this is where there is free trade in goods and services, Common External Tariffs for all the members, as well as free mobility of capital and labour across countries.
- (e) Monetary union (MU); all the member countries use a common currency

Dr. Twinemaanzi covered the regional integration blocs for Eastern and Southern Africa, giving country membership in the blocs as shown in the table below:

COMESA	SADC	SACU	EAC
Angola	Angola	Botswana	Burundi
DRC	Lesotho	Lesotho	Kenya
Djibouti	Malawi	Namibia	Rwanda
Comoros	DRC	South Africa	Tanzania
Burundi	Botswana	Swaziland	Uganda
Egypt	Mauritius		
Eritrea	Mozambique		
Ethiopia	Namibia		
Kenya	Seychelles		
Madagascar	South Africa		
Malawi	Swaziland		
Mauritius	Tanzania		
Namibia	Zambia		
Rwanda	Zimbabwe		
Seychelles			
Sudan			
Swaziland			
Uganda			
Zambia			
Zimbabwe			

He stated that although overlapping trade blocs confer benefits for the beneficiary country belonging to more than one bloc; this creates problems to its partners because, since, it forces them to involuntarily confer benefits to member countries outside their bloc. He further noted that each of these Blocs is at a different level and degree of integration and that regardless of their different levels of integration, the common objective of these regional blocs is to increase the markets and trade opportunities for their nationals which should in turn lead to more efficient resource allocation, growth and development and eventually higher levels of welfare.

He advised that in order to obtain the highest benefits from regional integration, government needs to position Uganda's private sector to compete favourably in the region by improving the efficiency in the delivery of public goods and services, and among other things, adhering to the following:

- (a) Creating a spirit of patriotism and nationalism within Ugandans

- (b) Enforcing stiff penalties for the corrupt and the embezzlers
- (c) Putting civil and public servants on contract and reduce elitism in Public Service
- (d) Creating a disciplined labour force
- (e) Generating more electricity
- (f) Providing infrastructure such as roads, railways, airways, and waterways
- (g) Improving co-ordination among Government institutions and departments
- (h) Ensuring the quantity and quality of Uganda's products
- (i) Regulating the costs of bank credit to make it affordable to the private sector
- (j) Building private sector business management capacity
- (k) Aggressively seeking out opportunities and markets in the region for Uganda's entrepreneurs, capital, skilled labour, goods and services

In his concluding remarks, Dr. Twineemanzi advised that as much as each national government within a regional integration bloc should focus on the promotion of the welfare of its citizens, regional integration should not be a zero sum game but rather, it must be a cooperative game that must result in improvement in the welfare of all the people in the trading bloc.

He noted that areas of cooperation may include; the construction of regional infrastructure, exploitation and marketing of shared resources such as those related to climate, water and tourism, negotiations in multilateral institutions, combating pests and diseases, etc.

4.2 Trade Development in the Context of Implementing the National Development Plan

Mr. Ojakol presented a paper on Trade Development in the Context of Implementing the National Development Plan 2010/11-2014/15. Mr. Ojakol highlighted the constraints to be addressed in the context of the National Trade Policy and the NDP as being:

- (i) Weak public sector management and administration
- (ii) Inadequate financing and financial services
- (iii) Inadequate quantity and quality of human resource
- (iv) Inadequate physical infrastructure
- (v) Addressing Gender issues, negative attitude, poor mind set, and perceptions of the populace
- (vi) Low levels of application of science and technology
- (vii) Inadequate supply of production inputs.

He noted the overall theme of the NDP as being, achieving “**Growth, Employment and Socio-Economic transformation for Prosperity**”, thereby increasing the size of the economy, increasing opportunities for gainful employment, improving sectoral labor force distribution, Raising per capita income levels, and balancing wealth creation with sustainable poverty reduction.

He further highlighted the NDP Objectives as being;

- (a) Increasing household incomes and promoting equity,

- (b) Enhancing the availability and quality of gainful employment,
- (c) Improving stock and quality of economic infrastructure
- (d) Increasing access to quality social services
- (e) Promoting science, technology, innovation and ICT to enhance competitiveness.
- (f) Enhancing human capital development
- (g) Strengthening good governance, defence and security
- (h) Promoting sustainable population and use of environment and natural resources

Mr. Ojakol stated that the trade sector theme is “**Trading out of poverty into wealth and prosperity**”, which entails;

- (i) Expanding trade opportunities at domestic, regional and international levels
- (ii) Enhancing linkages with the productive sector,
- (iii) Improving trade infrastructure and ensuring that the private sector trades in quality goods.

Mr. Ojakol outlined the trade sector set objectives which included;

- (i) Effective integration of the national economy into the regional and multilateral economy
- (ii) Development and nurturing of the Private Sector competitiveness
- (iii) Supporting the productive sectors of the economy to trade.
- (iv) Creating wealth, employment and enhancing social welfare

He pointed out that trade is a complementary sector along with energy, transport, water for production, science and technology. He noted that trade development is informed by the National Trade Policy, the National Trade sector development Plan and the MTI Strategic Investment Plan.

Mr. Ojakol noted that under trade development and implementation of the NDP, the key objectives and strategies adopted include;

- i. Nurturing of the Private Sector to improve competitiveness
- ii. Developing and harmonizing a market information system
- iii. Developing human resource in trade related issues
- iv. Building Entrepreneurial skills and Curriculum development towards trade
- v. Increasing market access for products and services
- vi. Negotiating better market access
- vii. Enhancing branding of goods and services
- viii. Promoting effective positioning of Uganda's products in international markets
- ix. Promoting policy synergies between the production and trade sectors
- x. Strengthening institutional coordination and enhancing coordination of trade sector working group and creating synergies with the production sector working groups.
- xi. Promoting equal opportunities for women, youth and disadvantaged groups to participate in and benefit from trade

In conclusion, Mr. Ojakol affirmed that trade development priorities for the next five years are coherent and aligned to the National Development Plan, implementing the trade agenda would lead to attainment of some of the key objectives of NDP and alleviation of some of the constraints identified in the NDP.

5.0 SESSION 4: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN; A FOCUS ON TRADE DEVELOPMENT

The session was chaired by Hon. Stephen Biraahwa Mukitale and focused on ways of improving and utilizing the service sector in the exploitation of trade opportunities. Dr. Francis Mangeni Director of Trade, Customs and Monetary Affairs, COMESA presented a paper on Service Sector performance in the exploitation of trade opportunities for Uganda and was discussed by Mr. Walusimbi Mpanga, Chairman Uganda services Coalition. Dr. Abel Rwendeire, Vice Chairperson National Planning Authority presented a paper on Putting Trade at the Service of Development; Tackling the tasks Ahead.

5.1 Service Sector Performance in the Exploitation of Trade Opportunities for Uganda

Dr. Mangeni, in his key message, noted that the services sector is already making a significant contribution towards achieving the poverty eradication objectives of Uganda and other MDGs, and the NDP 2010-15. The services sector contributed 50.7% of GDP in 2010, that is, double the contribution of agriculture and industry. He further advised that Government can build on this performance through key interventions that strengthen the sector such as;

- (i) Promoting Public-private sector dialogue and leadership
- (ii) Developing Partnerships with regional and international organizations
- (iii) Prioritizing Utilization of regional markets

Dr. Mangeni outlined the types of services based on the United Nations Central Product Classification as being:

- (i) Business services
- (ii) Communication services
- (iii) Construction and related engineering
- (iv) Distribution
- (v) Educational
- (vi) Environmental
- (vii) Financial
- (viii) Health-related and social
- (ix) Tourism and travel-related
- (x) Recreational, cultural and sporting
- (xi) Transport
- (xii) Other services not included elsewhere

He also noted Uganda's priority service sectors/ subsectors as being:

- (i) Professional services
- (ii) Energy
- (iii) Banking
- (iv) Transport
- (v) Education
- (vi) Health
- (vii) Information Technology
- (viii) Telecommunications
- (ix) Construction
- (x) Environmental services and
- (xi) Tourism

Dr. Mangeni advised that the following areas should be focused on for service sector performance and exploitation of trade opportunities in Uganda;

- i. Adopting a comprehensive approach to Regional Trade Agreements.
- ii. Establishing and enforcing a good regulatory framework that takes into account regional markets
- iii. Removing Non-Tariff Barriers
- iv. Standardizing regional trade procedures
- v. Exploring what COMESA has to offer in terms of market access by the Private Sector
- vi. Providing a regulatory system in the services sector
- vii. Establishing Programmes to develop ICT
- viii. Joining the COMESA FTA in order to benefit from the benefits associated with Free trade Areas

5.2 Putting Trade at the Service of Development; Tackling the tasks ahead

Dr. Rwendeire, the Vice Chairperson of National Planning Authority, noted that NPA had just produced the 5 Year National Development Plan (NDP) that became operational on 1st July 2010 with the theme of **“Growth, Employment and Socio-economic Transformation for Prosperity”**. He noted that the NDP interventions aim at creating employment, raising average per capita income levels, improving the labour-force distribution in line with the sectoral GDP shares, raising country human development and gender equality indicators and improving the country's competitiveness to levels associated with middle income countries.

Dr. Rwendeire stated that trade development is a Complementary sector in the NDP among others that provides institutional and infrastructural support to other sectors. He further stated that the NDP also identifies the investment priorities and flagship projects that operationalise the implementation period which are closely related to trade development. The priority intervention areas are: human resource development, infrastructure development, critical production inputs; and science, technology and innovation.

He further noted that Uganda has attained some progress in some areas in Trade development such as:

- i. Significant increase in both foreign and local investment flows into the economy. As a percentage of GDP, private investment rose from 12.2 per cent in 2000/2001 to 20.6 per cent in 2006/2007.
- ii. Growth performance of the sector averaged 10.3 per cent between 2004 and 2008.
- iii. Growth in trade in services was 9.4 percent contributing 46.4% of total GDP in 2008/09. The major contributors to this growth were the financial services, and transport and communication.
- iv. The number of business establishments consistently increased by 8.8 percent during 2008 with the trade sector having the highest proportion of businesses (53.9 percent), followed by real estate and business services (15.3 percent) and manufacturing (12.6 percent).
- v. Investment in private construction especially of residential buildings continued to rise modestly increasing machinery and equipment investment, and low public construction.
- vi. The share of the labour force employed in trade increased marginally from 1.35 per cent in 2002/03 to 1.39 per cent in 2005/06 (UBOS).
- vii. More market access was achieved through both regional integration and bilateral trade negotiations (i.e. duty free and quota free market access to the East African Community EAC countries under the EAC Customs Union and Common Market, the twenty seven EU under the EPA, and the U S under AGOA).

Dr. Rwendeire pointed out that Uganda's trade deficit has been widening despite improvements in the composition and value of exports. Despite increases in the exports earnings during the year 2008, the country's trade deficit has more than doubled from US \$ 1,061.1 million in 2004 to US \$ 2,801.6 million in 2008.

He stated that the "Doing Business Survey 2010" report ranks Uganda 112th out of 183 countries on a wide range of business indicators. He identified Problems that affect the doing business environment in particular singling out difficulty in accessing finance, corruption, inadequate infrastructure, slow tax administration, poor work ethics, Government bureaucracy, inadequately educated workforce, long time-frames for registering property, long time frames for importing and exporting goods , inadequate protection accorded to investors, numerous procedures for starting businesses and long time frames by courts of law in enforcing contracts.

In addition to the above, he noted that Uganda has not fully capitalized on the opportunities due to supply-side constraints, poor infrastructure, inappropriate technology, inadequate skills and inadequate standards infrastructure. He advised that Uganda's task ahead should focus on addressing these constraints to enable the country's products access international markets.

To achieve competitiveness and a good business environment, Dr. Rwendeire emphasized strategic interventions for Trade development in the NDP for the next five years as being:

- (i) Improving the ‘Doing Business’ environment by strengthening the policy, legal and regulatory frameworks and implementing measures to reduce the time and cost of starting a business.
- (ii) Nurturing the private sector with a view to improving its competitiveness in the domestic, regional and international markets by developing a human resource in trade related issues, developing a national trade information system, and increasing awareness on the available financing options and standards.
- (iii) Increasing market access for Uganda’s products and services in regional and international markets through further negotiations, continuously pursuing market diversification strategies and widening the export base. This will require enhancing branding of products and services, effective positioning of Uganda’s products and services in international markets and Penetrating high value markets in high income countries such as the EU, the US , and Canada .
- (iv) Improving the stock and quality of trade infrastructure while ensuring standards.
- (v) Promoting policy synergies between the production and trade sectors through strengthened coordination of trade institutions in public and private sectors
- (vi) Providing equal opportunities to women and youth to participate and benefit from trade since they are the majority in SMEs.

In his concluding remarks, Dr. Rwendeire urged the participants to support and commit themselves to the attainment of these objectives in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders in order to achieve our development goals and vision as a transformed Uganda from a peasantry to a modern and prosperous country.

6.0 Summary of Key Action Points by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat captured action points of the Conference and categorized them into two areas of focus, being;

6.1 Broad Areas of Focus

The broad areas of focus were identified by the Conference as being;

- i. Improving the regulatory framework Developing national capacity to take advantage of market opportunities
- ii. Addressing regional integration issues, which among others include
 - 1. Removing NTBs
 - 2. Joining the COMESA FTA,
 - 3. Harmonizing Standards
- iii. Facilitating trade, including development of trade infrastructure

6.2 Specific Areas of Focus

The specific areas of focus in the next financial year were identified by the Conference as being;

- i. Expediting the enactment of Commercial laws (such as Consumer Protection Law, Competition Law, and Anti-Counterfeit law), and further improve the regulatory regime for trade in services
- ii. Prioritizing the removal of NTBs to trade; as they currently inhibit our potential to benefit from regional integration
- iii. Putting in place a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy and enacting the PPP Law so as to attract private sector investment in key sectors, and to allow Government to partner with the private sector
- iv. Encouraging inter-sectoral linkages to promote complementarities and synergies with line ministries such as MTTI, MAAIF and MOWT so as to plan and budget in a complementary manner. This would entail setting up –a Sector Working Group in which these ministries participate effectively
- v. Developing Human resource focusing more on developing vocational skills, entrepreneurship training; and cultivating mindset change
- vi. Creating a Cabinet Sub-committee to handle trade related issues given the cross cutting nature of trade
- vii. Increasing the budget outlay of MTTI as a core Ministry in the country's development
- viii. Developing Energy and Infrastructure and ensuring that ongoing efforts in these areas are expedited, with MTTI taking keen interest in these sectors as they greatly affect trade development
- ix. Prioritizing sectors for intervention so as to focus Government interventions on export promotion (the National Development Plan already provides guidance on this)
- x. Uganda should consider joining the COMESA FTA; given that her major trading partners, Sudan and Kenya are members and Uganda's exports to those countries attract taxes.
- xi. Disseminating business information dissemination through education and sensitization of the business community on matters such as insurance schemes, which provide cover for political risks, terrorism, transit and guarantee bonds

7.0 Closing Remarks

The Chairman Parliamentary Committee on Tourism Trade and Industry, Hon John Bosco Lubyayi on behalf of the Minister of MTTI closed the conference. He thanked MTTI for organizing the conference and appealed to the participants that the outcomes and recommendations arising from the conference should be put to use by the relevant stakeholders. He further assured participants that the recommendations made would be taken into account by government.

8.0 Appendices

8.1 AIDE MEMOIRE FOR THE 4th NATIONAL TRADE SECTOR REVIEW CONFERENCE

1.0 Background

The Ministry of Tourism Trade and Industry, with support from the Economic Partnership Agreement Related Trade and Private Sector Support Programme (EPA TAPSS), is organizing the Fourth National Trade Sector Review Conference (NTSRC). The objective of the Conference is to conduct a review of the performance of the Trade Sector since the last Review Conference and to establish the intervention strategies in view of the recent developments in the trade sector, notably the implementation of the East African Community Common Market, the launching of the COMESA Customs Union and the duty free quota free market opening by the European Union through the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

During 1990-2001, Uganda's economy registered a solid performance based on increased investment in the rehabilitation of infrastructure and facilities, improved incentives for private sector growth and investment, export growth and diversification, macroeconomic stability including reduction of inflation rates, restoration of security of persons and property, and the return of exiled India-Ugandan entrepreneurs expelled by Idi Amin in the 1970s. During this time, buoyed by the enabling policy and regulatory environment ushered in by the Government of the National Resistance Movement (NRM), the trade sector in Uganda developed at a remarkable pace. For example, the percentage share of trade in GDP grew from 10% in 1997 to 14.3% in 2008 while the growth rate of the sector grew from 7.6% registered in 1988 – 1998 to 13.6 in 2008. In 1990, Uganda's total export bill amounted to a meager USD 177.7million, which increased to USD 710.6 million in 1996, representing a 300% growth in six years. The enabling environment in the policy and regulatory framework coupled with relative improvement in trade facilitating infrastructure has steered Uganda's export bill to unprecedented levels of USD 2.03 billion and USD 3.151 billion in 2008 and 2009 respectively. The country's major trading partners are the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the European Union; with the main export products being coffee, fish and fish products, tea, tobacco, flowers, and fruits and vegetables.

Government has continued to encourage export diversification in terms of both products and markets through pursuance of regional integration and negotiations for duty free and quota free markets in advanced economies has contributed to the growth in exports. Government, through the Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry is committed to ensure that this growth is accelerated through value addition, expanding markets, improving production capacity, supporting private sector growth and investment, and ensuring compliance with standards.

2.0 The Review Conference

The 1st Review Conference was held in 2005 and identified major interventions required to boost private sector growth in the context of formulating the National Trade Policy. The 2nd Review Conference was held in 2006 and acted as the final national consultation session in the development of The National Trade Policy and the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study Action Matrix. The 3rd Review Conference was held in 2008, under the theme “*Trading out of Poverty, into Wealth and Prosperity*” and provided a platform for the public and private sectors to dialogue on major actions required for Uganda to benefit more from market openings in the East African Community and the European Union.

In this context, the 4th NTSRC to be held on 14th October 2010 at Commonwealth Resort Munyonyo, will assess the progress made in implementing recommendations of the previous Conferences and the commitments in the National Trade Policy, and chart the way forward for accelerating growth in the sector in view of the opportunities created by the East African Community integration process as well as market openings in developed countries. The theme of the conference will be “*Improving Competitiveness and Doing Business Environment*”. This theme has been picked to address competitiveness and the doing business environment in the wake of market openings under regional integration and the high value markets particularly in the European Union. While reviewing the Trade Sector under this theme the Ministry of Tourism Trade and Industry and all invited stakeholders will be guided by the conference objectives as outlined in section 3.0 of this Concept Note.

The Conference will attract two hundred (200) participants comprising the Ministry's political leadership and technical staff, technical staff of relevant ministries, Members of Parliament on the Sessional Committee on Tourism, Trade and Industry, Chairpersons of selected Parliamentary Committees, the prominent local and international investors and private sector players, selected District Commercial Officers (DCOs), and the academia. The Conference will draw participants from across the country.

The review Conference will be done under three thematic areas, namely;

- ❖ Implementation of the National Trade Policy; improving competitiveness and business environment
- ❖ Regional Integration; harnessing the opportunities
- ❖ Implementation of the National Development Plan; A Focus on Trade Development.

3.0 Objectives

The specific objectives of the Review Conference are to:

- ❖ Identify and prioritize interventions required to boost the country's doing business environment and competitiveness with a view to tapping the opportunities available in the EAC and the EU
- ❖ Apprise stakeholders on the programmes Government is undertaking to enhance competitiveness and improve the ease of doing business environment in Uganda
- ❖ Make recommendations on the way forward in the Trade Sector in the bilateral, regional and multilateral arrangements.

4.0 Methodology

Invitations accompanied by the Aide Memoire for the Review Conference will be issued and delivered to all invitees. Presentations of papers covering the thematic areas will be made by international and national experts as well as prominent private sector players. Each paper will be followed by a plenary that will include discussions and questions and answer session.

The Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry will capture the proceedings particularly the decisions and recommendations and follow up with the relevant institutions on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations.

5.0 Funding of the Review Conference

The Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry with support from the European Union through the Economic Partnership Agreements Trade Related Sector Support Programme (EPA TAPSS) shall fund the Conference.

6.0 Output of the Conference

The expected outcome of the Conference will be:

- ❖ An understanding of the issues and interventions required to boost the competitiveness and doing business environment and how they can be implemented.
- ❖ Recommendations on the interventions to be carried out by the Ministry and other stakeholders to enhance the competitiveness and doing business environment.
- ❖ Strategies on implementation of trade development in the context of the National Development Plan
- ❖ Ways of forging a Private Public Partnership between Government and private sector in approaching and tackling regional integration.

PROGRAMME

Time	Activity	Chair/Speaker
8:00am-8:45am	Registration	MTTI/EPA TAPSS Programme
Session 1:	Chair: Dr. Maggie Kigozi, Executive Director, Uganda Investment Authority	
8.45-9:15 am	Official Opening of the Conference: welcome Remarks by the Hon. Minister of Tourism Trade and Industry	Hon. Maj Gen Kahinda Otafiire
09:15 -09:30am	Trade and National Development; the complementary roles of Government, Development Partners and the Private Sector	Mr. Harvey Rouse, Representative of the Delegation of the European Union, (Lead development partner in the trade sector)
09:30-10:30 am	Keynote Address: Trade as a Means of Accelerating Growth and Development; improving competitiveness and the doing business environment	Mr. Bernard Hoekman, Sector Director of the Trade Department in the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Vice-Presidency (PRMVP), World Bank
10:30 -11:00 am	Expanding and Exploiting Regional and International Markets: Implementation of National Trade Policy.	Amb. Julius B. Onen, Permanent Secretary, MTTI
11.00 – 11.15	Discussant	Hon. Gerald Ssendaula , Chairman PSFU
11.15-11.35	Health Break	
Session 2	Chair: Ms. Annet Muyimba, Head of Marketing & International Business, Makerere University Business School	
11:35-11:55 am	Harnessing Trade and Investment Opportunities in the East African Community Common Market, and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	Dr. Lindani Ndlovu, Trade Consultant
11:55-12.05pm	Discussant	Dr. Peter Ngategize, National Coordinator , CICS
12:05-12:25 pm	Improving the Competitiveness and Doing Business Environment in Uganda: What Needs to be done	Dr. Samuel Sejjaaka, Deputy Principal, Makerere University Business School
12:25-12:35 pm	Discussant	Ms Maria Kiwanuka- Managing Director Radio One
12:35 – 1:00pm	Plenary discussion	
1:00-2:00 pm	Lunch Break	
Session 3	Chair: Hon. J.B. Lubyayi, Chair Tourism, Trade & Industry Sessional Committee of Parliament	

Time	Activity	Chair/Speaker
2:00-2:20 pm	Regional Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: Positioning Uganda for Private Sector Development.	Dr. Twineemanzi Tumubwine from Uganda Development Cooperation
02:20 – 02:30 pm	Discussant	Dr Luke Okumu- Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) -Makerere University
02:30 – 03:00 pm	The Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry Strategic Investment Plan as an Implementation Instrument of the National Development Plan 2010/11 – 2014/15; A Focus on Trade Development	Mr. Silver Ojakol, Commissioner External Trade, MTTI
03.00 – 03.20 pm	Plenary discussion	
Health Break		
Session 4	Chair: Hon. Stephen Biraahwa Mukitale, Chair Parliamentary Committee on National Economy	
03:20-03:40 pm	Service Sector performance in the exploitation of trade opportunities for Uganda	Dr Francis Mangeni- Director Trade, Customs and Monetary Affairs, COMESA
03:40-03:50 pm	Discussant	Mr. Walusimbi Mpanga: Chairman Uganda Services Coalition
03.50-04:10 pm	Plenary Discussion	
04.10 – 04.30pm	Putting Trade at the Service of Development; Tackling the Tasks Ahead	Dr. Abel Rwendeire, Vice Chairperson - National Planning Authority
04.30 – 04.50pm	Plenary wrap up discussion	
04.50 – 05.00pm	Closure	The Chairman Parliamentary Committee on Tourism, Trade & Industry, Hon. J.B. Lubyayi

Organizing Committee

- i. Mr. Cyprian Batala
- ii. Mr. Silver Ojakol
- iii. Mr. Raymond Agaba
- iv. Mr. Emmanuel Mutahunga
- v. Mr. Cleopas Ndorere
- vi. Mr. Siraji Wakabu
- vii. Mr. Didas Kumwesiga