

# COVID-19 recovery and Aid for Trade – Opportunities for sustainable economic development and transition to circular economy

Session at the WTO Aid for Trade Stocktaking Event March 23-25, 2021



Kingdom of the Netherlands



SITRA

## **Distinguished speakers:**

### **H.E. Dr. Cleopa Kilonzo Mailu, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Kenya to WTO**



H.E. Ambassador Cleopa Kilonzo Mailu has served as the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland since 2018. Prior to his appointment, Amb. Dr. Cleopa Mailu was the Cabinet Secretary for Health since 2015. In his long and illustrious career in Public Service, Dr. Mailu held key Professional, Management and Leadership positions in the Ministry of Health, Kenyatta National Teaching and Referral Hospital and the Private Sector. As a qualified medical doctor, he served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Nairobi Hospital, the leading Private hospital in Kenya for 12 years.

Ambassador Mailu has had a key role in Health sector reforms in the Public Health sector and advancing the SDGs and health coverage as a national priority. Earlier in his career, Amb. Mailu practiced as a Clinical Geneticist; and worked in key management positions, among others as the Director of the National Health Sector Reform Programme (1996-99). During his extensive career, Ambassador Mailu has served in diverse Boards and councils in health, banking, education and labour sectors.

### **Dr. Anthony Nyong, Professor and Director for Climate Change and Green Growth, African Development Bank (AfDB)**



Professor Anthony Nyong has around 30 years of experience in environmental and natural resources management, renewable energy and green growth. Positions he has held at the African Development Bank include Coordinator of the New Deal on Energy Initiative; Head of the Gender, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Unit; and Head of the Compliance and Safeguards Division.

Before joining the Bank, he was a Senior Climate Change Specialist at the International Development Research Centre of Canada and a Professor of Climate Change at the University of Jos, Nigeria. He was a Coordinating Lead Author for the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report and a member of the IPCC Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis. Mr Nyong has served on several Global Advisory and Scientific Boards including the Sustainable Stock Exchange Green Finance Advisory Group. He holds a PhD in Geographical Science from McMaster University, Canada. Mr Nyong is a Senior Executive Fellow of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, a Chartered Geographer and a Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences.

### **Mr. Robert Koech, Managing Director, Siomo Tea Factory**



Mr. Robert Koech is Managing Director of Siomo Tea Factory in Kenya. In his current position, he implemented several strategic initiatives to enhance the performance of the tea factory and led the factory to be recognized as a quality leader at various tea sector awards. As such, the factory improved its use of resources such as energy and invested into implementing circular production practices. Before joining Siomo Tea Factory, Robert worked in different positions in the digital and software sectors. He graduated with a BSc in electrical engineering from Northeastern University, Boston, USA.



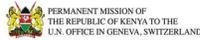
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## Ms. Colette Van der Ven, Consultant, International Trade Lawyer, TULIP Consulting



Ms. Colette Van Der Ven is a Geneva-based international trade lawyer working at the intersection of law, trade policy and development with a focus on Africa and Latin America. As founder and Director of the Trade for Development Initiative at Sidley Austin LLP, she provides pro bono advice to developing and least-developed countries on trade and investment policy. She also consults governments, international organizations, and non-profits on technical trade and development issues and teach workshops on similar topics.

Previously, Ms. Van der Ven worked for three and half years as an international trade associate at Sidley Austin's Geneva office, representing governments in their disputes at the World Trade Organization (WTO). She also has a wide range of experience in law and development e.g. in working in Cambodia, at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, at the World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency, at Acumen Fund in India, and working for a federal judge in the United States. Ms. Van der Ven holds a Juris Doctor from the Harvard Law School (2014), a Masters in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government (2014), a bachelors of Arts degree from Middlebury College (2009), and is a proud alum from United World College of the Atlantic (2004).

## Mr. Kari Herlevi, Project Director, the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra



Mr. Kari Herlevi is Project Director in Sitra's Circular economy for biodiversity -focus area and a multi-skilled circular economy expert based in Helsinki, Finland. Previously, Mr. Herlevi led the Green Growth programme at Tekes, which was associated with the circular economy and had a financing volume of more than 100 million euros. He also has experience of Silicon Valley, where he had the privilege of working with the best people in the field. Mr. Herlevi has master's degrees in finance and political sciences.

In addition to the work on circular economy, Mr. Herlevi keeps busy by renovating his house and taking care of his daughters. He hopes to have time for his own hobbies sometime in the future. Mr. Herlevi believes that in 2030 we will be closer to an environment-positive society in which, for example, traffic emissions have been minimised and the circular economy is reducing waste.

## Ms. Marianne Kettunen, Head of Programme, the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP, moderator)



Ms. Marianne Kettunen is the Head of Global Challenges and SDGs Programme at the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP). She leads IEEP's portfolio of work aimed at improving EU's contributions to the delivery of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the global context, including the role of environment and environmental policies in delivering social and economic benefits. This includes the integration of environment into trade policy and addressing the global spillover impacts of European consumption and production.

Ms. Kettunen is the lead author of recent IEEP flagship policy reports on trade, including delivering an EU Green Deal for trade and the environment, and improving policy coherence between EU circular economy and trade to support sustainable development. She is currently leading multiple projects linked to 'greening' of trade, including the assessment of ecosystem and biodiversity impacts in the context of EU trade negotiations.

