South Asian LDCs in the run up to Bali: Key Market Access Priorities and Recommendations

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Regional Consultation on: Road to Bali: South Asian Priorities for the Ninth WTO Ministerial, Marawila, Sri Lanka, 2-3 July 2013

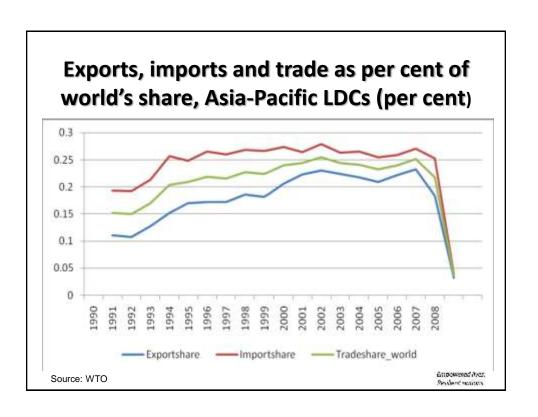


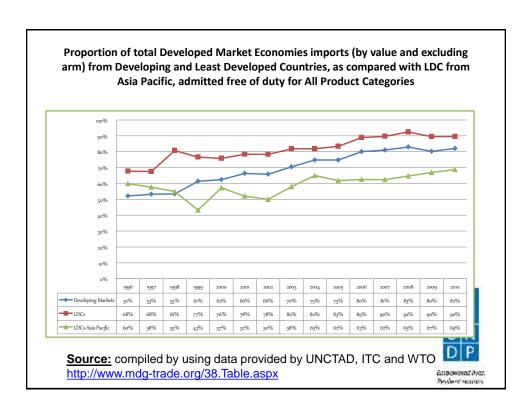
Presentation Outline

- Overview: Basic indicators South Asian LDCs
- Market Access trends and priorities for Asia Pacific LDDCs including South Asian LDCs
- Current State of Play on a Policy Package of LDCs at MC9 Bali and a post Bali Roadmap
- Some Recommendations and summary of key messages

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South Asian LDCs: Basic Indicators								
Country	Geographic Status	GDP per capita current US\$ (2011)	Population in millions (2011)	Human Development Index (2012)				
Afghanistan	Landlocked	543	35.3	175				
Bangladesh	Coastal	743	150.5	146				
Bhutan	Landlocked	2346	0.7	140				
Nepal	Landlocked	619	30.5	157				





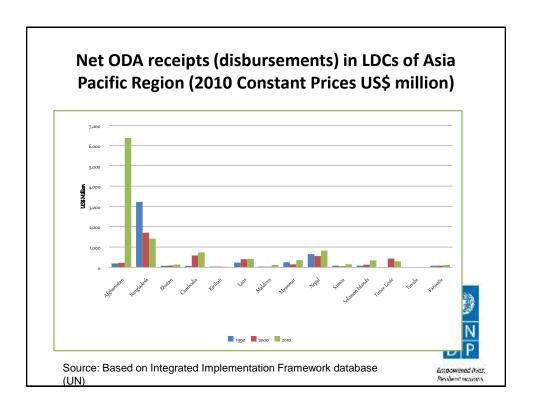
Average tariffs by degree of processing faced by Asia and Middle East LDCs

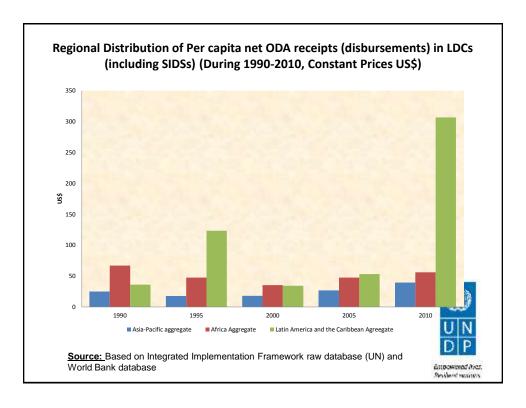
Economy	1996	2000	2005	2008
Primary Commodities	3.5	0.7	1.0	0.8
Intermediate Products	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.7
Final Products	8.8	8.2	6.6	6.6

Source: WTO, 2010



developing countries							
Economy	Description	Entry into force	Percentage of duty-free tarif	ff			
China	Duty-free treatment for LDCs	Jul-10	60 per cent (2010), gradually expanding to 97 per cent	y			
India	Duty-free Tariff Preference Scheme for LDCs (DFTP)	Aug-08	85 per cent to be covered by 3 2012				
Republic of Korea	Presidential Decree on Preferential Tariff for LDCs	Jan-00	95 per cent (2011)				
Taiwan Province of China	Duty-free treatment for LDCs	Dec-03	Nearly 32 per cent (2009)				
Turkey	Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)	Jan-02	Nearly 80 per cent (2009)	N			





Current State of Play on LDC Policy Package at Bali on Market Access and some recommendations

- Implementation of the Hong Kong Ministerial Meeting Decision on provision of duty free quota free (DFQF)
- Rationalizing preferential rules of origin (RoO)
- Preference Erosion
- Need to put the issue of NTBs at the Centre
 - UNCTAD estimates earlier highlighted that nearly half of LDC exports faced NTBs of different types (2002)
- Need to emphasizing trade jointly with intensive efforts aimed at productive capacity building
 - Balancing the economics of supply and demand

Market access provisions should be made commercially meaningful and operationally effective for LDCs

Looking beyond Bali: LDC focused second generation international support measures for more inclusive growth in South Asia

Craft and build consensus over strategic, innovative, bold proposals to build proposals:

- Infrastructure building and regional connectivity issues
- Industrial and technological, financial cooperation

Sub-regional mechanisms such as the SAARC Development need to be operationalized, made more effective and scaled up

EU as a possible role model? Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and Cohesion Fund

Empowered Ives,

Thank you!

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