

AID FOR TRADE GLOBAL REVIEW 2019

SESSION: 67

Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal *Connectivity and Trade Facilitation*

Thursday, July 04, 2019 | 15:00-16:00 hours

WTO Room S 1 | GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

The sub-region of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) is undergoing significant economic growth and diversification. Connectivity is increasingly surpassing land towards developing improved infrastructure for rail, air and waterways. While this is supported by various Aid for Trade (Aft) initiatives, other factors for a more sustained trade along with empowerment such as impact on women and the youth, livelihood development, resilient infrastructure as well as digital connectivity and skill development remain largely unaddressed.

By focussing on the following questions, this Session will deliberate on good policies and practices to address them as well as the WTO's role in re-orienting its Aft initiatives.

1. What are the challenges for BBIN countries in diversifying from land to that of rail, air and waterway connectivity?
2. What are the specific opportunities for women and the youth to participate in emerging connectivity initiatives, such as the Border Haats, BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement, Bangladesh-India Coastal Shipping Agreement, etc.?
3. What is the future of Aft initiatives the BBIN sub-region to support resilient infrastructure and sustainable trade? Is there a case for regional Aft initiatives?

MODERATOR



BIPUL CHATTERJEE
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



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